Poultry and Egg Situation

Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service

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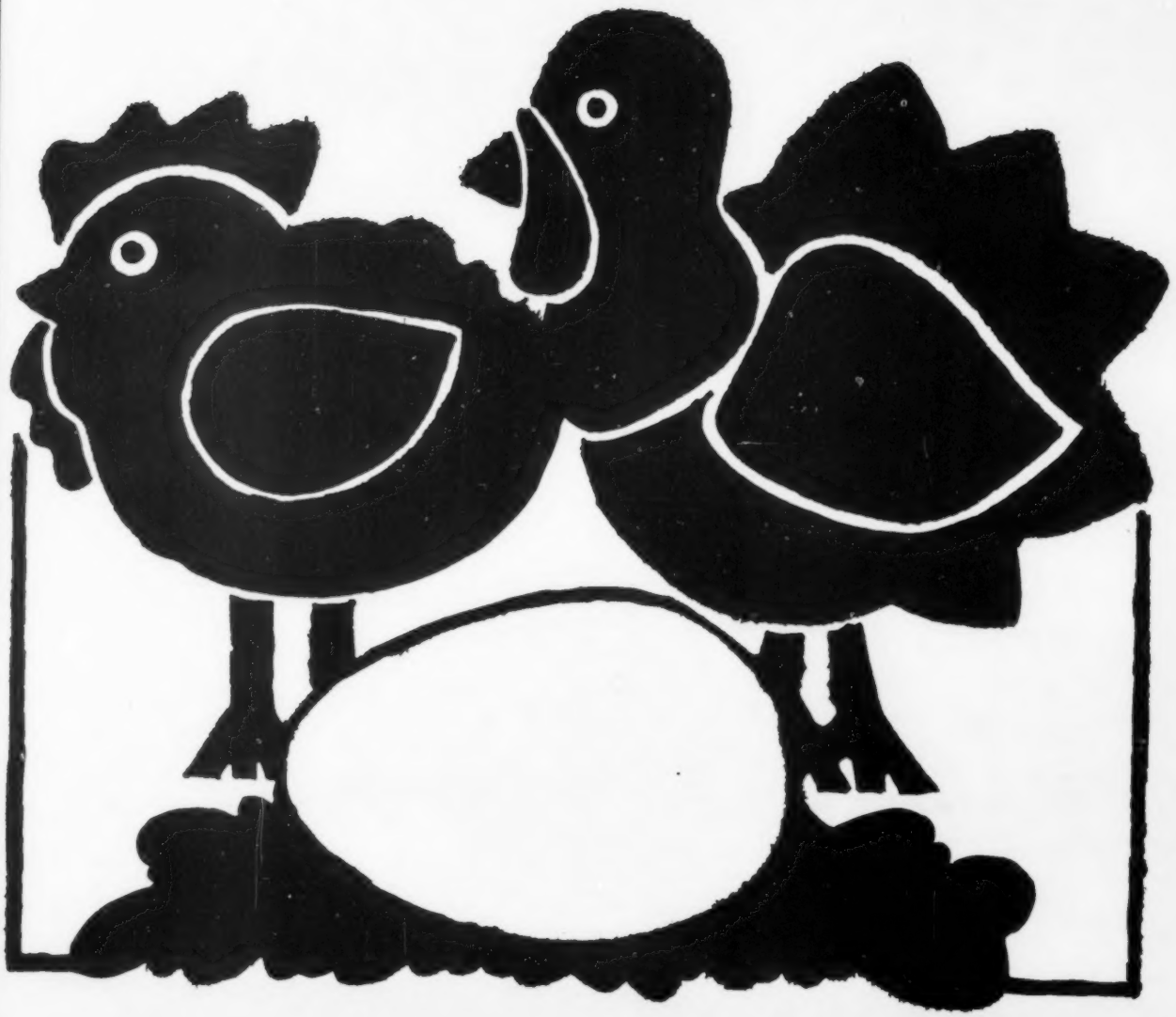

Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1978				1979			
		April	May	June	July	April	May	June	July
		Eggs							
Farm production	Mil. doz.	462.8	476.7	454.5	460.7	473.7	483.6	464.5	476.6
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	278.7	277.5	275.6	274.3	285.2	281.6	280.0	280.6
Rate of lay per layer	No.	19.9	20.6	198	20.2	19.9	20.6	19.9	20.4
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	51.7	49.2	43.7	49.6	60.2	56.7	55.6	53.4
14 Metro areas price Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	59.0	54.6	51.3	61.8	71.3	64.3	66.1	64.4
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	154	155	157	155	163	163	166	177
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	6.7	6.3	5.6	6.4	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.0
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	Thous. cases	25	36	29	26	24	19	27	23
Frozen	Mil. lb.	22.9	22.9	22.2	26.6	21.1	21.7	21.6	22.8
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	50.9	53.7	45.6	35.8	52.6	55.7	47.3	42.4
		Poultry							
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	769.1	902.6	874.9	801.7	889.8	1,013.5	940.7	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	80.8	129.3	189.5	199.9	112.3	157.3	195.9	
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	27.8	27.8	30.5	31.6	28.2	29.0	26.4	25.5
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	38.1	39.5	40.7	42.0	43.1	42.2	40.0	38.3
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	46.1	46.1	50.7	50.8	47.5	49.4	46.1	42.8
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	169	171	174	170	185	184	186	199
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.6
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	183	184	186	186	200	201	203	214
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.6
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	21.8	22.5	19.8	21.1	18.3	16.3	16.8	18.6
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	113.0	101.1	103.9	152.8	135.8	128.9	152.9	200.9
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	233.4	209.7	213.3	257.0	239.3	235.0	262.9	327.2
Average weekly placement of broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	74.7	76.6	76.9	72.9	82.5	83.4	84.4	79.0

Table 00—Retail prices and price indexes for egg and poultry 1978-79

Month and year	Retail price[1]			Retail price index[2]				
	Eggs	Frying chicken	Turkeys	Eggs	Fresh whole chicken	Fresh & frozen chicken parts	Other poultry	Poultry
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*1967=100*	*1967=100*	*December 1977=100*	*December 1977=100*	*1967=100*
1978								
Jan.	73.2	57.8	74.6	156.1	156.2	101.9	103.0	157.5
Feb.	77.7	61.0	73.9	159.1	163.0	103.6	104.2	161.5
Mar.	79.8	61.9	75.1	160.7	165.7	105.4	105.0	163.9
Apr.	77.4	65.1	77.6	155.3	174.7	108.1	106.2	169.3
May	70.3	66.8	79.3	147.4	175.8	109.2	107.8	171.0
June	65.8	72.7	81.9	137.0	185.1	114.2	110.7	178.4
July	75.8	72.0	82.4	146.5	194.4	118.1	113.1	185.2
Aug.	81.1	72.2	84.8	164.1	182.0	113.8	115.6	179.1
Sept.	80.1	67.3	85.9	161.9	180.6	111.7	116.6	177.9
Oct.	76.5	66.8	87.5	159.1	177.6	112.4	117.2	177.3
Nov.	80.0	67.0	87.1	167.0	175.5	112.3	116.3	176.0
Dec.	86.0	67.4	88.1	179.5	176.7	112.5	118.7	177.6
Year	77.0	66.5	81.5	157.8	175.6	110.2	111.2	172.9
1979								
Jan.	88.3	67.8	90.3	180.4	179.8	114.9	121.3	181.2
Feb.	88.0	69.5	89.8	182.1	185.3	118.6	122.5	185.8
Mar.	90.4	71.5	90.9	181.3	191.5	121.6	123.0	189.9
Apr.	86.7	70.3	90.6	179.0	191.5	121.5	123.0	189.9
May	79.6	71.1	91.1	172.9	185.9	120.4	125.1	188.0
June	82.4	69.6	91.4	161.9	185.8	120.3	123.4	187.2
July	81.6	68.8	90.4	165.8	184.1	119.4	123.6	186.2

[1] Estimated average price for 4 regions for Grade A large eggs, Grade A frying chicken, and 8-16 pound young hen turkey.
[2] Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers published by Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

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SUMMARY

During the balance of 1979, broiler and turkey meat prices will be below April-June levels as a result of larger meat supplies and lagging consumer incomes. During July-December of this year, per capita production of poultry and red meat will be 6 to 8 percent larger than in the first half of the year and 3 percent above year-earlier levels.

Production and marketing costs will be higher than a year earlier in coming months because of the higher costs of feed and other inputs. As a result, broiler producers will have negative returns. Returns to turkey and egg producers will decline but likely will remain positive.

Egg output will continue 2 to 3 percent above 1978 levels. Layer numbers on July 1 were up 2 percent and will stay above year-earlier levels as more pullets enter the laying flock. Producers hatched around 7 million more egg-type pullets than a year earlier during January-June, largely for second half flock replacements. Although cullings of old birds may be heavier, they will be offset by an increase in flock replacements unless producer returns drop more than expected.

Egg prices this year have averaged well above last year's levels and probably will continue higher. They have been boosted by the prices of other high-protein foods. Through June, cartoned Grade A large eggs in New York averaged 69 cents a dozen, 11 cents above a year earlier. The seasonal increase in egg prices will be less than usual this year, but prices probably will still average 2-4 cents above the 65 cents for July-December 1978.

Broiler production during the first half of 1979 was up 8 percent from the second half of 1978 and 11 percent above a year earlier. Weekly slaughter and chick placement reports indicate that July-September output will be around 12 percent above a year ago. Because declining producer returns and prospects for negative returns in coming months, producers likely will reduce October-December out-

The next issue of the *Poultry and Egg Situation* will be published in December.

put to around 10 percent above last year. Prospects for the first quarter of 1980 indicate that broiler producers will be facing strong competition from other meats, and production costs will be above a year earlier.

Broiler prices have dropped in recent months as supplies of broilers and other meats have increased. Prices (9-city average) averaged 49 cents a pound in May—3 cents above May 1978—but had dropped to 43 cents in July. Prices likely will average near 40 cents during August and September but drop to the mid-30's this fall, compared with 43 cents a year ago.

Turkey output through June was 17 percent above a year earlier. Output will stay above 1978 levels during the balance of 1979, but the increase over 1978 will narrow to around 8 percent for July-December. Total 1979 output is expected to be around 2.2 billion pounds—up 11 percent from 1978. About two-thirds of this output will be in the second half.

Prospects for turkeys during January-June 1980 indicate larger supplies of competing meat and higher production costs than in 1979. In addition, cold storage turkey stocks on January 1, 1980 may be 70 to 80 million pounds above a year earlier.

Turkey prices are down substantially from late 1978. New York wholesale prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys in January averaged 73 cents a pound in January but dropped to the mid-60's by June. Turkey prices probably will drop further in coming months and average in the low 60's this summer and fall—10 to 12 cents a pound below last year.

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Production and changes from a year earlier

	1978				1979			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Broilers[2] (Mil. lb.)	2,327	2,547	2,567	2,443	2,551	2,844	2,875	2,685
Percent change	+8	+6	+6	+8	+10	+12	+12	+10
Turkeys[2] (Mil. lb.)	228	400	680	676	271	465	735	730
Percent change	+9	+10	+1	+5	+19	+16	+8	+8
Beef[3] (Mil. lb.)	6,104	5,936	5,921	6,040	5,564	5,076	5,275	5,400
Percent change	-3	-4	-6	-3	-9	-15	-11	-9
Pork[3] (Mil. lb.)	3,242	3,264	3,158	3,539	3,399	3,760	3,800	4,300
Percent change	-2	+3	+3	+1	+5	+15	+20	+21
Total[4] (Mil. lb.)	12,154	12,372	12,538	12,908	11,954	12,314	12,850	13,280
Percent change	-1	0	-2	0	-2	0	+3	+3
Eggs (Mil. doz.)	1,378	1,394	1,380	1,444	1,419	1,422	1,425	1,475
Percent change	+4	+4	+4	+2	+3	+2	+3	+2

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Prices

	1978				1979			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Broiler-9-City[5] (Cents/lb.)	41.8	47.6	46.6	42.1	47.5	47.7	40-42	35-37
Turkeys, New York[6] (Cents/lb.)	60.2	61.4	68.2	77.1	70.2	66.2	61-63	58-60
Choice Steers, Omaha (Dollars/cwt.)	45.8	55.1	53.8	54.7	65.42	72.5	64-66	64-67
Barrows and Gilts, 7 7-markets ($/cwt.)	47.4	47.8	48.5	50.0	51.98	43.0	36-38	33-35
Eggs, New York[7] (Cents/doz.)	62.0	53.8	63.0	67.8	71.9	66.2	65-67	68-70

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial production. [4] Includes veal and lamb and mutton. [5] wholesale weighted average. [6] 8-16 lb. young hens. [7] Cartoned, consumer Grade A large, sales to volume buyers.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

FACTORS AFFECTING THE POULTRY AND EGG INDUSTRIES

Producer returns during the balance of 1979 and into 1980 will be down from a year earlier. Poultry and egg prices will be under downward pressures from a slowdown in the growth of the general economy and a sharp increase in pork supplies. At the same time, production and marketing costs will be higher than in 1978 because of higher feed costs and a continued rise in the costs of other production and marketing inputs.

General Economy Weakens

The U.S. economy continues to weaken and a mild recession is likely this year, with a slow recovery expected in 1980. The economy has trended downward since the first quarter of this year. Real GNP (Gross National Product) declined 2.4 percent in the second quarter and could remain below a year earlier during the third and fourth quarters.

Real personal income fell in April-June and further declines are likely through the rest of 1979. Real disposable per capita income, a key determinant in consumer demand, will likely grow at a sluggish rate throughout 1980. Demand for poultry and eggs may be further hampered by increased unemployment. With the onset of a recession, the unemployment rate is expected to rise to about 6.7 percent in the fourth quarter of this year.

Pork Supplies Up Sharply

Expanding pork production will more than offset the continued decline in beef production during the second half of 1979 and the first half of 1980. Total red meat production during October-December 1979 likely will be larger than the year-earlier quarter for the first time since the fourth quarter of 1976.

Pork output increased sharply in the second quarter of 1979 and will continue to increase during the rest of this year. A larger number of hogs available and a slowdown of marketings during the June trucker strike resulted in a record number of hogs being marketed during July—1 to 2 percent above the record set in July 1971, and about 22 percent more than a year earlier. August-September marketings will come mainly from the June 1 inventory of market hogs weighing 60-179 pounds, which was up 16 percent from June 1, 1978. However, with declining producer margins, fewer gilts will be held for breeding than a year ago. This will result in July-September hog slaughter even greater than the June 1 inventory would suggest. The March-May pig crop and the June 1 inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds indicate that October-December hog slaughter may exceed year-earlier levels by 20 percent or more. The year-to-year increase in hog slaughter in the first half of next year will narrow, but slaughter will stay well above the first half of 1979.

Increased pork and poultry output this year has caused market prices to drop sharply. Barrows and gilts at 7 markets during July averaged about $39 a hundred pounds, down $1 from June and $8 below July 1978. Hog prices will continue lower and for July-September may average $10 to $12 below the $48 for the third quarter of 1979. They will drop further during the fall and may average $15 to $17 a hundred pounds below the $50 for October-December 1978.

August 1 inventories of cattle on feed suggest that fed beef production during July-December will be down 6 to 8 percent from the second half of 1978. Total beef supplies, however, will remain relatively steady during the rest of this year, although they will still be down a tenth or more from the second half of 1978.

Cattle prices declined sharply in late July and early August as a backlog of heavy cattle were marketed. Choice steers (900 to 1,100 pounds) at Omaha averaged $72.50 a hundred pounds during April-June, but dropped to the upper 50's in August as total meat supplies increased. Prices have strengthened in recent weeks and are expected to average in the $64 to $67 range during the second half of 1979, still well above the $54.25 of a year earlier.

Production Costs Higher

Production costs may ease temporarily later this year as feed grain and soybean prices decline seasonally during harvest. However, feed grains are expected to stay above year-earlier levels.

Despite large feed grain stocks and prospects for another large harvest this fall, grain prices are above year-earlier levels. Strong export demand this year and expanded domestic livestock and poultry production have combined to boost prices. Current strength in feed grain prices also appears to be due to the prospect that exports in the year

ahead will be even larger than the expected 1978/79 record levels. The *World Crop Production* report released by USDA on August 10, showed some improvement in prospects for world grain production in the 1979/80 crop year. Due to improvements in the U.S. situation, total world coarse grain production estimates for 1979/80 were raised from 711 million metric tons in July to 723 million tons in August.

Both corn and soybean supplies are expected to be adequate for poultry producers during the next year. The August 1 U.S. corn crop was forecast at a record 7.1 billion bushels, just above the record 1978 harvest. Corn prices at the farm are forecast to average $2.40-$2.75 a bushel, compared with $2.20 in 1978/79. Of course, weather conditions through harvest and other factors could cause production to differ from August 1 estimates.

Farmers increased acreage planted to soybeans this year to a record 71.5 million acres. As of August 1, the 1979 crop was forecast at 2.1 billion bushels, up 16 percent from the 1978 crop. Stocks of soybeans on September 1, the start of the 1979/80 marketing year, were estimated to be down around 6 million bushels from a year earlier. The increased production combined with this stock level would provide around a 14-percent increase in soybean supplies for 1979/80.

With larger supplies and a probable increase in domestic crushing, soybean meal prices in the next 12 months may average $10 to $15 a ton below a year earlier.

Production costs for broilers, turkeys, and eggs have increased this year with most of the increase coming from substantial increases in corn and soybean meal prices. Estimated feed costs for producing a dozen Grade A large eggs during July was 32.7 cents, up 4 cents from July 1978. Broiler feed costs were 16.6 cents, up nearly 2 cents a pound and the cost for turkey, at 23.6 cents, was up 1 cent a pound. These estimated costs of production are based on corn and soybean meal prices lagged 1 month for eggs, 2 months for broilers, and 3 months for turkeys.

EGGS

Egg production is expected to stay 2 to 3 percent above year-earlier levels during the balance of 1979 and into 1980. Egg prices will rise less than usual this summer and fall but likely will average above a year ago.

First Half Egg Production Up

Egg output during January-June totaled 2,841 million dozens, up 2.5 percent from the first half of 1978. Nearly all of the increase was due to a larger laying flock. On January 1, there were 1 percent more hens and pullets in the laying flock than a year earlier. Favorable profit margins caused producers to reduce culling of old flocks during February and March. As a result, layer numbers on April 1 were up 3 percent. After Easter, expectations of a sharp seasonal egg price decline and declining profit margins caused producers to increase culling in April and May. Nearly 6 million more mature chickens were inspected in federally inspected plants during April and May than in 1978. As a result, layer numbers on June 1 were up only 1 percent. Egg prices did not decline as much as expected in the spring, and profit margins generally remained favorable. Culling again dropped sharply in June. This and a few more replacement pullets resulted in layer numbers on July 1 being up a little more than 2 percent from July 1, 1978. Despite the ups and downs in culling, total first half mature chicken slaughter was nearly the same as a year earlier.

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979
	Mil.		*No.*		*Mil. doz.*	
I	283	290	58.5	58.8	1,378.1	1,418.8
II	277	282	60.3	60.4	1,394.0	1,421.7
III	277		59.8		1,380.0	
IV	289		60.0		1,444.2	
Annual	281		238.7		5,596.3	

Second Half Production To Continue Expansion

Egg production this summer and fall is expected to be 2 to 3 percent above both the first half of this

Table 3– Egg type chick hatchery operations

Month	Hatch			Eggs in incubators first of month change from year earlier	
	1977	1978	1979	1978	1979
	Thou.			*Pct.*	
January	40,338	36,891	39,858	-11	10
February	40,893	36,906	39,527	-14	7
March	51,265	46,805	49,412	-5	9
April	55,133	50,886	52,572	-6	3
May	52,452	53,675	55,704	2	2
June	44,700	45,631	47,331	8	2
July	37,412	35,806	42,400	1	12
August	37,821	38,556		1	10
September	37,394	37,715		0	
October	37,559	35,637		7	
November	34,470	35,878		3	
December	32,476	34,593		15	

year and July-December 1978. The Nation's laying flock on August 1 totaled 281 million layers, up a little more than 2 percent from last August. Layer numbers will continue to increase seasonally in coming months and stay above a year earlier because of more replacement pullets entering the flock.

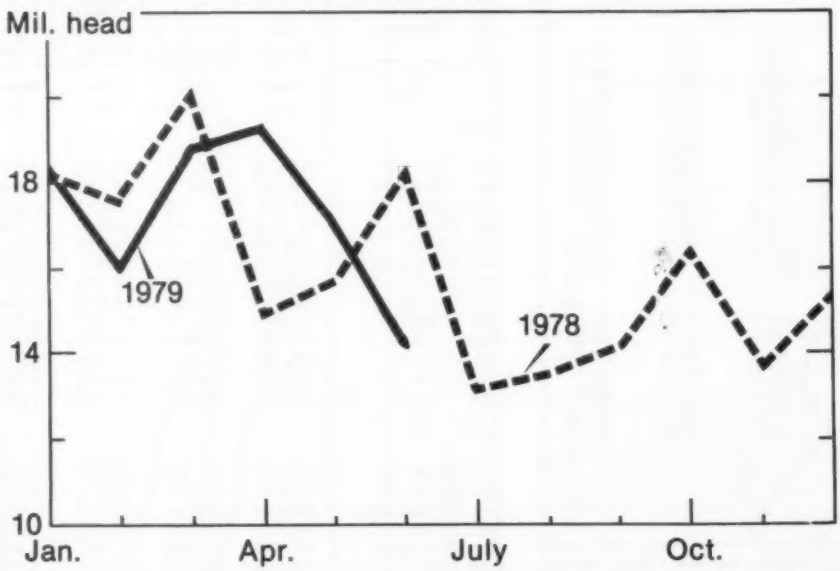
During the first quarter of 1979, producers hatched 4 million (7 percent) more egg-type pullets than a year earlier and 3 million (4 percent) more in the second quarter. In addition, broiler producers placed 3 million more broiler-type pullets for hatchery supply flocks in the first half of this year. Most of the egg-type pullets hatched and

Table 4— Force moltings and light-type hen slaughter, 1977-79

Month	Forced molt layers[1]						Light-type hens slaughtered under federal inspection		
	Being molted			Molt completed					
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	Percent			*Percent*			*Thousand*		
January	3.2	2.4	2.5	15.1	13.6	14.1	14,076	15,804	15,508
February	3.4	3.7	3.5	14.4	11.9	13.8	14,519	15,232	13,529
March	3.9	3.8	3.8	13.8	12.7	13.4	16,758	17,620	15,947
April	2.7	3.3	2.9	12.5	12.1	13.1	16,587	12,969	16,552
May	5.1	4.9	4.5	11.8	10.6	12.0	14,160	13,378	14,142
June	5.5	4.9	5.0	11.3	11.9	12.3	15,361	15,738	11,570
July	4.1	5.0	4.1	13.3	12.0	13.7	10,163	11,121	
August	3.6	4.5	4.3	14.3	13.7	14.0	11,976	10,698	
September	3.2	3.7		14.4	14.0		12,861	11,625	
October	4.6	4.1		13.9	13.4		12,525	13,594	
November	3.8	3.5		14.7	13.3		11,837	11,431	
December	3.0	2.5		15.4	14.9		13,990	12,977	

[1] Percent of hens and pullets of laying age in 17 selected states.

Mature Chicken Slaughter*



*Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks.

broiler-type pullets placed during the first half of the year enter the laying flocks during the second half. Although culling may be heavier this year than last, the increase likely will not fully offset the increase in flock replacements unless producer returns are less than currently expected.

Producer returns likely will remain positive during the balance of 1979 and into 1980; however, they will be less favorable than a year earlier. Production and marketing costs will be above a year earlier.

Egg Prices Above 1978

Egg prices in January-June averaged well above year-earlier levels despite increased supplies. For the first 6 months of 1979, New York wholesale prices for Grade A large cartoned eggs averaged 69 cents a dozen, 4 cents above the second half of 1978 and 11 cents above a year earlier. Substantially higher prices for all high-protein foods, apparently, have caused consumers to substitute eggs for some other higher-priced protein foods. A dozen large eggs provide one and a half pounds of high-quality protein food; few other sources of protein food can equal eggs price per pound.

Table 5– Egg prices, 1978-79

Month & year	E.M.E.C. quotes on market values[1]		Received by producers United States[2]	Cartoned Grade A large New York[3]
	East	Midwest		
	Cents			
1978				
January	44.6	43.7	49.4	57.2
February	54.2	52.8	55.1	64.9
March	53.0	52.3	55.4	64.0
April	46.4	45.0	52.2	57.9
May	43.3	42.3	49.3	52.9
June	39.3	38.9	43.6	50.6
July	52.8	51.8	48.3	62.8
August	51.4	50.1	52.0	62.6
September	53.0	51.0	53.7	63.8
October	50.1	49.5	52.3	62.1
November	57.4	56.5	56.8	68.8
December	60.8	60.1	61.6	72.6
1979				
January	62.4	60.6	60.3	72.5
February	56.4	55.0	60.1	68.0
March	64.7	63.3	64.3	75.1
April	56.5	56.2	60.2	69.6
May	52.3	51.4	56.7	62.6
June	55.2	55.2	55.6	66.1
July	49.6	53.0	53.4	64.0
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				

[1] Average of weekly price quotations for No. 1 nest run eggs by the Egg Market Evaluation Committee. Does not necessarily represent prices at which eggs are traded in the market. [2] Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. [3] Sales to volume buyers, store door delivery, consumer Grade A large.

Retail prices in the 4 regions of the United States during April-June this year averaged 83 cents a dozen. This was down 6 cents from the previous quarter but 12 cents above the same months of 1978.

Egg prices likely will increase less than usual this summer and fall but will still average above year-earlier levels. Seasonal price rises will be limited by increased egg production and a lagging economy. Grade A large cartoned eggs in New York this summer and fall are expected to average 2 to 4 cents a dozen above the 65 cents for July-December 1978. Continued relatively high prices for other high-protein foods will bolster the demand for eggs. However, if egg producers continue to expand, prices in 1980 could drop well below 1979 levels and below their cost of production and marketing.

Higher Domestic Use; Lower Exports

Consumption of shell eggs and the shell equivalent of egg products during January-June totaled an estimated 139 eggs per person, 2 eggs more than the 137 eggs consumed during the first half of 1978. More eggs were used this year for hatchery purposes but exports and military purchases were down.

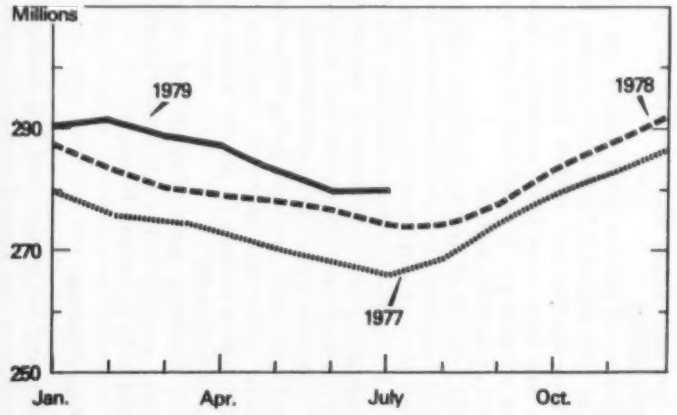
Exports of eggs through the first 6 months of this year lagged well behind a year ago. Much of

Table 6– Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1978-79

Period[1]	Shell eggs broken	Egg products produced[2]		
		Liquid[3]	Frozen	Dried
	Thou. doz.	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*
1978				
Jan. 1-Jan. 28	48,855	27,867	25,652	5,506
Jan. 29-Feb. 25	47,627	29,218	24,983	5,144
Feb. 26-Mar. 25	45,341	28,348	23,021	4,000
Mar. 26-Apr. 22	51,948	30,904	26,605	5,501
Apr. 23-May 20	56,547	34,437	28,328	6,651
May 21-June 17	62,978	35,587	33,768	7,827
June 18-July 15	60,032	33,971	29,953	6,775
July 16-Aug. 12	55,138	31,030	27,054	5,805
Aug.13-Sept. 9	53,400	32,179	24,307	5,255
Sept. 10-Sept. 30	42,820	26,442	19,972	5,007
Oct. 1-Nov. 4	67,102	41,837	32,267	8,355
Nov. 5-Dec. 2	44,814	26,579	22,048	4,702
Dec. 3-Dec. 30	49,422	28,106	27,171	4,298
1979				
Dec. 31-Jan. 27	47,259	27,752	24,507	4,999
Jan. 28-Feb. 24	47,606	29,553	21,911	5,284
Feb. 25-Mar. 24	48,013	29,106	23,758	5,000
Mar. 25-Apr. 21	49,077	29,191	24,192	4,866
Apr. 22-May 20	54,489	32,399	25,891	5,841
May 21-June 17	58,749	36,338	26,891	7,184
June 18-July 15	60,841	35,768	29,001	7,229

[1] Weeks in 1979 and 1978. [2] Includes ingredients added. [3] Liquid egg product produced for immediate consumption and for processing.

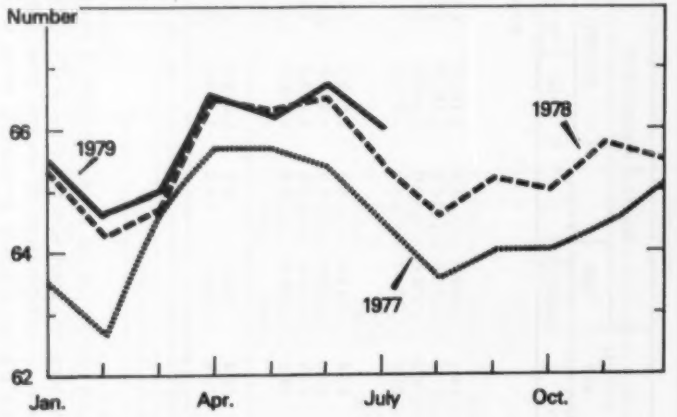
U.S. Flock Size *



* Number of layers on hand, first of month.

USDA

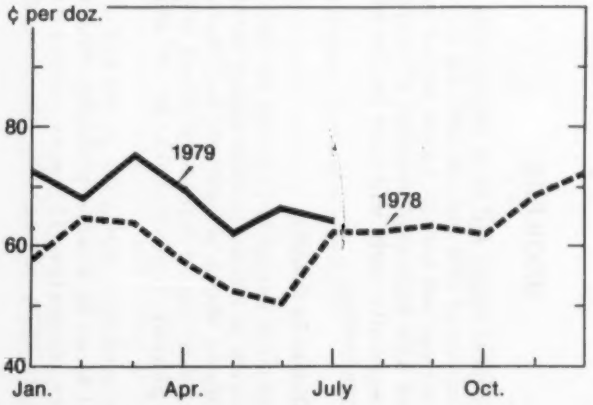
Rate of Lay *



* Eggs per 100 layers, first of month.

USDA

Cartoned Egg Prices, New York*

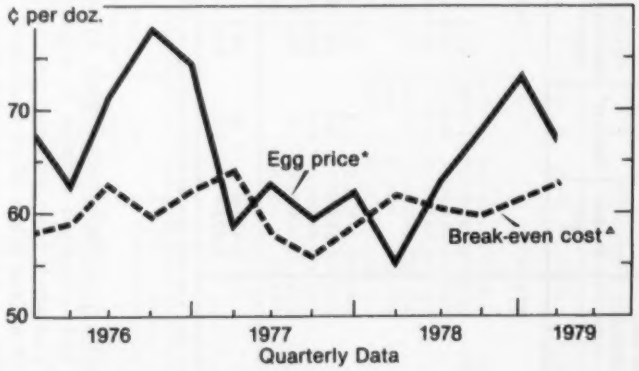


*Sales to volume buyers, consumer grade A large.

USDA

Neg. ESCS 60-79 (8)

Eggs
Break-Even Cost and Market Price



*14 area metro price. △Estimated U.S. break-even cost.

USDA

Neg. ESCS 2609-79 (9)

Table 7—Total eggs: Supply and utilization, 1977-79

Year and quarters	Supply				Utilization					
							Domestic disappearance			
	Production	Imports[1]	Beginning stocks[1]	Total supply	Ending stocks[1]	Exports and shipments[1]	Eggs used for hatching	Military[1]	Civilian[1]	
									Total	Per capita
	Million dozen									*Number*
1977										
I	1,325.8	1.1	20.7	1,347.6	19.9	16.1	109.3	7.6	1,194.7	67.0
II	1,337.7	6.0	19.9	1,363.6	25.0	23.2	112.6	10.9	1,191.9	66.7
III	1,333.1	6.9	25.0	1,365.0	27.1	26.8	102.6	10.0	1,198.5	66.9
IV	1,410.6	.2	27.1	1,437.9	23.7	24.6	104.7	7.8	1,277.1	71.1
1978										
I	1,378.1	1.4	23.7	1,403.2	18.1	37.4	113.2	6.6	1,227.9	68.2
II	1,394.0	3.3	18.1	1,415.4	21.0	30.0	122.4	7.0	1,235.0	68.6
III	1,380.0	6.7	21.0	1,407.7	23.1	24.9	111.9	7.4	1,240.4	68.8
IV	1,444.2	.1	23.1	1,467.4	20.3	28.0	115.4	6.9	1,296.8	71.7
1979										
I	1,418.8	.4	20.3	1,439.5	16.7	24.4	124.1	5.8	1,268.5	70.0
II	1,421.7	2.2	16.7	1,440.6	18.1	22.8	132.3	13.3	1,254.1	69.0

[1] Shell eggs and the approximate shell-egg equivalent of egg product. [2] Less than 100,000 dozen. [3] Calculated from unrounded data.

the decline resulted from higher domestic egg prices and increased supplies in other countries. Exports of shell eggs and egg products totaled nearly 35 million dozen (shell equivalent), down 39 percent from January-June 1978. Exports of egg products declined 43 percent; shell eggs other than hatching eggs were down 61 percent while hatching eggs increased 11 percent. About one-half of the total (shell equivalent) eggs exported were in the form of egg products. Uniike exports, shipment of eggs to U.S. territories increased 17 percent to 12 million dozen.

BROILERS

Broiler meat output will be at record levels during the balance of 1979 and into 1980, but the year-to-year increase will narrow. Larger broiler output combined with increased supplies of competing meats, especially pork, will hold broiler prices below a year earlier.

Record Output To Continue

Broiler meat output is expected to remain at record levels in coming months despite declining profit margins. Broiler slaughter in July-December is expected to exceed last years record of 5,010 million pounds (ready-to-cook) by 550 million pounds.

Broiler production during the second half of this year will be up by a larger percentage than eggs placed in incubators 11 weeks earlier would indicate. In 1978, hatchability (the ratio of the number of chicks placed to the number of eggs set in incubators) dropped sharply during the summer because of a combination of several possible factors, including disease problems, heat related reduction in fertility, and use of hatching eggs not normally used. However, hatchability has improved this year and the year-to-year increases in weekly broiler chick placements in recent months has been larger than the increase in eggs set 3 weeks earlier.

Production of broiler meat during the first 6 months of 1979 totaled 5,395 million pounds, up 11 percent from the first half of 1978. Nearly all of the increase was from more birds marketed, since the average weight per bird slaughtered—at 3.9 pounds—was up only slightly.

Weekly reports of broiler slaughter and chick placements suggest that July-September broiler output will be up slightly from the previous quarter and around 12 percent above a year ago. The number of eggs going into incubators for marketing in late August and early September had declined to around 7 percent above year-earlier levels. This indicated that producers were going to slow their expansion in the fall. However, egg sets have bounced back to around 10 percent above a year earlier in recent weeks.

Despite declining profit margins and prospects for negative margins in the fall, broiler production is expected to be up around 10 percent.

Broiler Prices Decline

The demand for broiler meat has weakened in recent months as the general economy lagged and

Table 8— Broiler chicks hatched and pullet chicks placed in hatchery flocks

	Broiler-type chicks hatched			Pullet chicks placed in broiler hatchery supply flocks					
				Monthly placements			Cummulative placements 7-14 months earlier		
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1978	1979	1980
	Million			*Thousand*			*Thousand*		
January	294.3	313.0	340.7	2,585	2,687	3,541	21,934	24,824	28,589
February	272.4	289.7	313.3	2,419	2,751	3,089	22,282	25,498	28,642
March	323.2	332.3	366.2	2,919	3,309	4,004	22,353	25,360	
April	324.6	337.9	371.5	3,275	3,629	4,129	22,469	25,802	
May	337.4	360.6	391.2	3,025	3,532	3,960	23,063	26,168	
June	320.1	346.1	379.6	2,730	3,201	3,486	22,846	25,950	
July	310.6	338.5	365.3	2,782	3,376	3,144	22,584	25,610	
August	294.7	318.2		2,618	2,875		22,246	25,619	
September	280.0	296.1		2,701	3,129		22,267	25,507	
October	290.9	309.3		3,013	3,117		22,794	26,135	
November	282.2	307.0		2,702	3,091		23,805	27,389	
December	306.3	330.5		3,013	3,289		24,636	28,220	

Table 9— Broiler supply and prices

Year and quarters	Federally inspected slaughter				Total production RTC[1]	Per capita consumption	Prices	
	Number	Av. wt.	Live weight pounds	Certified RTC wt.			Farm	9-city
	Mil.	*Lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Cts/lbs.*	*Cts./lb.*
1977								
I	782	3.82	2,985	2,156	2,201	9.8	23.5	40.9
II	869	3.80	3,305	2,399	2,447	10.8	24.4	42.3
III	884	3.78	3,340	2,424	2,474	10.9	24.6	42.4
IV	798	3.90	3,110	2,248	2,296	10.2	21.5	37.6
Year	3,334	3,82	12,741	9,227	9,418	41.7	23.5	40.8
1978								
I	831	3.88	3,226	2,327	2,390	10.5	24.2	41.8
II	909	3.87	3,519	2,547	2,616	11.6	28.7	47.6
III	922	3.84	3,540	2,567	2,636	11.6	28.0	46.6
IV	854	3.95	3,371	2,443	2,509	11.0	24.7	42.1
Year	3,516	3.88	13,656	9,883	10,151	44.7	26.4	44.5
1979								
I	907	3.90	3,541	2,551	2,622	11.5	28.3	47.5
II	1,011	3.90	3,936	2,844	2,922	12.8	27.9	47.7

[1] Total production equals federally inspected slaughter plus other slaughter minus cut-up and further processing condemnations.

competing meat supplies increased. As a result, broiler prices dropped sharply during June and July. Broiler prices normally increase seasonally during these months, but this year the 9-city wholesale price dropped from an average of 49 cents a pound in May to 43 cents in July. Increasing pork supplies and lower red meat prices likely will hold average broiler prices in the low 40's this summer. Prices for July-September may average 5 to 7 cents below the 46.6 cents of a year earlier.

Broiler prices will decline further during the fourth quarter as demand weakens seasonally. Although the year-to-year increase in broiler production will narrow this fall, lagging disposable personal income and lower prices for competing meats will cause October-December broiler prices to average in the mid-30's, 5 to 7 cents below a year earlier.

Young Chicken Exports Above 1978

U.S. exports of young chickens (primarily broilers) and chicken parts during the first 6 months of 1979 totaled 172 million pounds, 12 percent more than in 1978. Shipments of young chicken and parts to U.S. territories (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) through June totaled 68 million pounds, 10 percent more than in the first half of 1978.

First Quarter 1980 Broiler Prospects

The outlook for the broiler industry going into 1980 is much less favorable than it was a year ago.

Table 10— Broiler: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1977-79[1]

Week*	Eggs set		Percent of previous year 1978-79	Chicks placed		Percent of previous year 1978-79
	1977-78	1978-79		1978-79	1978-79	
	Thousands		*Percent*		*Thousands*	*Percent*
November						
4	79,144	88,685	112	58,588	63,443	108
11	82,427	91,073	110	61,857	65,919	107
18	82,537	91,041	110	64,880	70,166	108
25	81,859	90,158	110	64,080	70,716	110
2	82,616	90,895	110	66,526	72,291	109
December						
9	82,360	87,280	106	66,849	72,283	108
16	83,549	92,956	111	65,958	71,430	108
23	83,291	92,359	109	66,117	73,521	111
30	84,266	87,145	103	66,170	69,215	105
January						
6	84,065	93,604	111	67,177	73,756	110
13	85,064	93,038	111	67,943	73,682	108
,20	86,067	94,104	109	68,119	73,851	108
27	86,580	93,031	107	67,903	74,316	109
February						
,3	85,691	93,832	110	68,349	74,112	108
10	87,138	97,015	111	69,275	74,826	108
,17	87,653	97,382	111	69,280	74,309	107
,24	88,369	98,006	109	69,275	74,386	107
March						
3	89,393	98,861	111	70,686	77,161	109
10	90,039	98,690	110	70,662	77,354	109
17	90,216	100,568	111	71,631	78,982	110
24	91,114	101,574	111	72,542	80,606	111
31	92,913	102,879	111	73,329	80,819	110
April						
7	94,241	103,337	110	73,068	81,531	112
14	95,116	103,306	109	74,020	81,733	110
21	95,176	103,300	109	75,372	82,454	110
28	94,723	102,796	109	76,218	83,369	110
May						
5	95,819	104,380	109	76,740	83,730	109
12	95,836	103,947	108	76,383	83,424	109
19	95,299	103,699	109	75,838	82,457	109
26	94,954	104,873	110	77,527	84,009	108
June						
2	94,966	104,888	110	77,331	83,995	109
9	95,191	103,908	109	77,396	84,315	109
16	94,044	101,736	108	76,747	84,613	110
23	90,188	96,545	107	76,546	84,809	111
30	92,479	99,108	107	76,563	84,036	110
July						
7	93,962	100,627	107	75,362	81,295	108
14	91,085	97,777	107	71,520	76,807	107
21	89,638	99,962	112	72,897	78,447	108
28	89,551	98,137	110	71,750	79,624	111
August						
4	88,725			69,630		
11	87,906			68,142		
18	87,484			68,263		
25	87,167			68,883		
September						
1	84,408			68,799		
8	81,065			68,899		
15	81,566			67,807		
22	88,734			64,352		
29	88,673			62,488		
October						
6	85,485			62,525		
13	80,555			69,099		
20	83,298			69,653		
27	88,755			67,320		

*Weeks in 1977-78 and corresponding weeks in 1978-79.

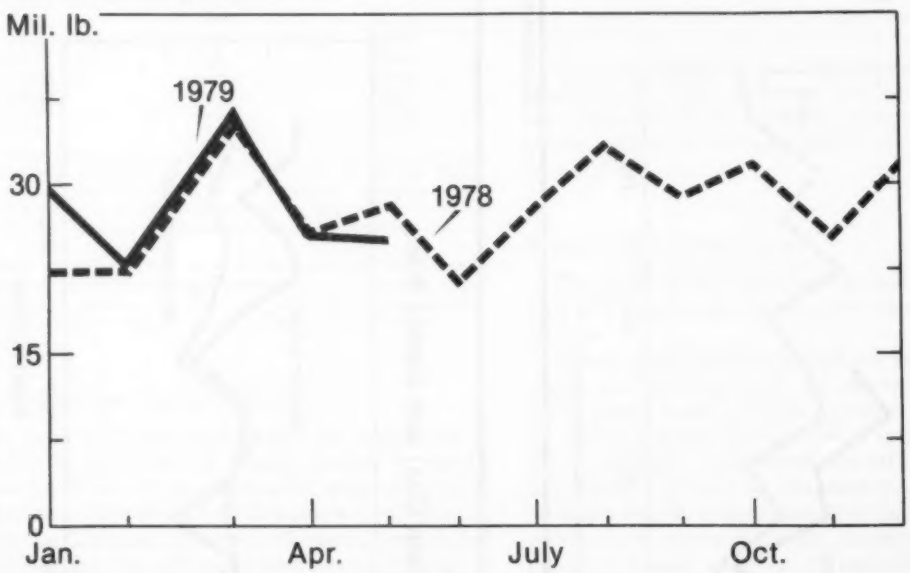
Prospects are for a weaker demand for broilers as the growth in consumer incomes continue to lag and supplies of competing meats increase.

Growth in the general economy has continued to weaken. A mild recession is likely during the balance of this year, with a slow recovery expected in

Table 11— Young chicken supply and utilization, 1978-79

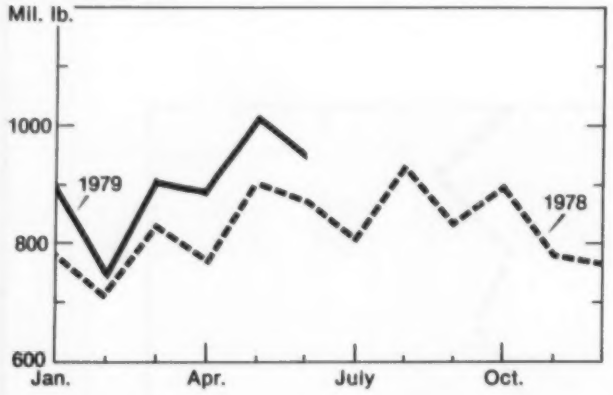
Year	Production[1]	Beginning stocks	Total supply	End stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita
	Million pounds							*Pounds*
1978:								
January	802.7	29.4	832.1	27.5	36.0	2.2	766.4	3.55
February	735.2	27.5	762.7	21.8	32.7	2.1	706.1	3.27
March	852.2	21.8	874.0	21.8	46.1	3.1	803.0	3.72
April	789.7	21.8	811.5	22.5	33.2	2.7	753.1	3.49
May	927.2	22.5	949.7	19.8	36.3	3.4	890.2	4.12
June	898.6	19.8	918.4	21.1	31.1	2.9	863.3	3.99
July	823.2	21.1	844.3	21.7	37.2	2.3	783.1	3.62
August	956.3	21.7	978.0	20.9	44.3	2.6	910.2	4.20
September	856.7	20.9	877.6	21.1	39.2	1.7	815.6	3.76
October	920.8	21.1	941.9	22.8	40.9	1.1	877.1	4.04
November	800.0	22.8	822.8	23.2	38.3	1.5	759.8	3.50
December	788.1	23.2	811.3	20.1	42.2	4.0	745.0	3.43
1979:								
January	922.0	20.1	942.1	17.9	41.1	2.1	880.9	4.05
February	770.1	17.9	788.0	17.7	35.4	2.7	732.2	3.37
March	930.2	17.7	947.9	18.3	49.3	2.6	877.7	4.03
April	915.0	18.3	933.3	16.3	35.0	3.2	878.8	4.04
May	1,040.2	16.3	1,056.5	16.8	37.1	6.2	996.4	4.57
June	966.6	16.8	983.4	18.6	42.5	8.9	913.4	4.19

Broiler Exports*



*Ready-to-cook weight.

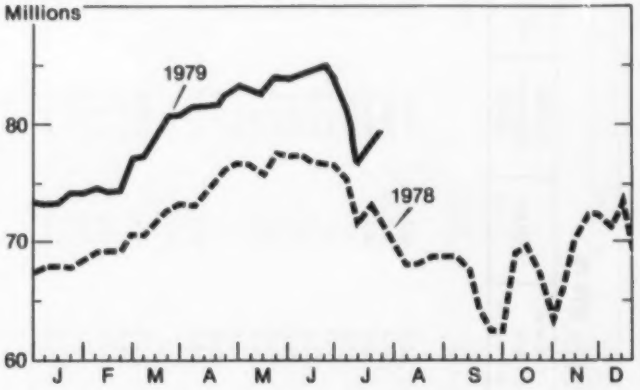
Broiler Slaughter*



*Certified ready-to-cook, under Federal inspection.

USDA Neg. ESCS 1019-79 (9)

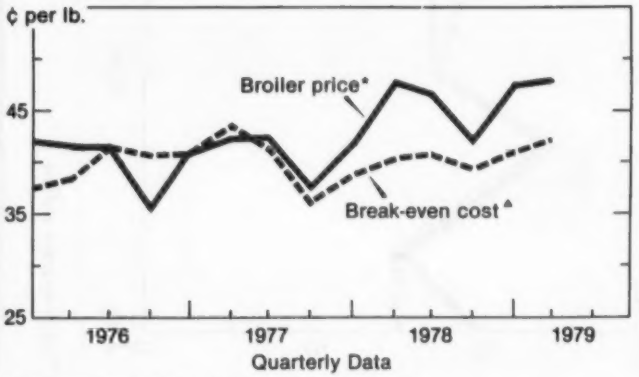
Weekly Broiler Chick Placements*



*22 important states.

USDA Neg. ESCS 8223-79 (9)

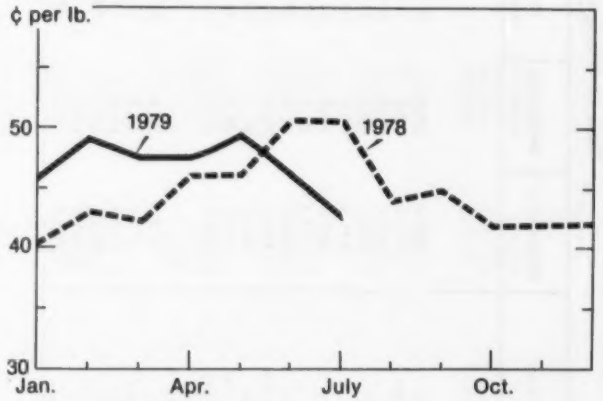
Broilers
Break-Even Cost and Market Price



*Nine city weighted average. ΔEstimated U.S. break-even cost.

USDA Neg. ESCS 2610-79 (9)

Broiler Prices*



*Nine city weighted average.

USDA Neg. ESCS 64-79 (9)

1980. Per capita real income, a key variable in consumer demand, likely will improve little during the first quarter of 1980. In addition, most consumer items will be higher with energy related costs leading the way.

Total competing meat supplies in the first quarter of next year promise to be larger than in 1979 when total red meat production was down 3 percent from the previous year. January-March beef supplies likely will be down 2 to 4 percent, but an expected 17- to 19-percent increase in pork production will be more than offsetting. January-March prices for pork will be down sharply from the relatively high 1979 first quarter levels.

If competing meat supplies and consumers incomes turn out about as currently expected and if broiler meat production is unchanged from 1979 levels, the 9-city prices during January-March 1980 likely will average 42 to 44 cents, 3 to 5 cents a pound below the first quarter of 1979. However, if past relationships hold, a 5-percent increase in output from first quarter 1979 would result in 9-city prices of 40 to 42 cents.

Table 12—Estimated 1st quarter 1980 broiler price/consumption relationships[1]

Domestic civilian per capita consumption		Wholesale broiler prices
Pounds	Percent change from year earlier	
		Cents per lb.
12.0	+15	36-38
11.5	+10	38-40
11.0	+5	40-42
10.5	0	[2] 42-44
10.0	-5	44-46
9.5	-10	46-48
9.0	-15	48-50

[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] The estimated 42-44 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats and general economic activity and assumes no change from a year earlier in per capita consumption of broilers.

The price other than the base 42-44 cents per pound were estimated by assuming the same conditions for competing meats and economic activity as under the base but various changes from a year earlier in the per capita consumption of broilers.

USDA Purchases Young Chickens

On July 12 USDA announced the beginning of the 1979/80 purchases of young chicken for use in the school lunch program and other domestic programs. The first purchases were made on August 1. Through August 15, purchases totaled 7.1 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chicken at a cost of $3.5 million and 1.7 million pounds of cooked frozen cut-up chicken at a cost of $1.4 million. In 1978, the first purchases of broilers by USDA were made in late July.

TURKEYS

Second-half 1979 turkey meat supplies will be well above a year ago as turkey production continues at record levels. Larger turkey supplies combined with increased pork and broiler production will hold turkey prices well below a year ago.

Increases in Turkey Production Slows

Turkey meat output will increase sharply during July-December but the percentage increase over 1978 levels will narrow sharply. Turkey production in federally inspected slaughter plants during the first 6 months of this year totaled 737 million pounds (ready-to-cook) 17 percent above the first half of 1978. All of the increase came from increased number of turkeys marketed because the average weight of turkey—at 18.29 pounds—was about the same as in 1978. The number of turkeys slaughtered was less than the turkey hatch last fall and winter had indicated. The hatch during September 1978 through February 1979 was up 21 percent, but declined to only 8 percent above a year earlier during March-June.

Turkey meat output during July-December likely will be up around 8 percent from the same months of 1978. Turkey output for all of 1979 is expected to total around 2.2 billion pounds, up 11 percent from 1978.

Declining profit margins during the rest of this year and prospects for larger competing meat supplies than a year earlier will result in turkey producers slowing the expansion in turkey production in 1980. However, profit margins during the remainder of 1979 may be good enough to hold turkey output above year-earlier levels in the first half of 1980.

Record 1979 Turkey Crop

The 1979 turkey crop is expected to total about 158 million head, 13 percent above 1978's 140 million.

Heavy breed turkeys raised are expected to total about 147 million head, 12 percent more than in 1978. Light breed turkeys increased 23 percent to 11 million head. Despite this large percentage increase, light breed turkeys still accounted for only about 7 percent of total turkeys raised.

Minnesota remained the largest turkey-producing State with an expected 25 million turkeys raised in 1979, 13 percent above 1978. North Carolina ranks second with 23 million, up 24 percent. California is third with 19 million, followed by Arkansas with 14 million, and Missouri with 11 million.

Turkey Prices Decline

Turkey prices trended lower during the first half of 1979 following the high levels of late 1978. This price decline was caused by the usual seasonal weakness in demand, a sharp increase in production, and declining prices of competing meats.

In January 1979, New York wholesale prices for 8-to-16 pound young hen turkeys averaged 73 cents a pound but they dropped to the mid-60's by mid-year. July prices averaged about 63 cents a pound, nearly 5 cents below a year earlier. Prices for young toms declined even more sharply than the young hens. Turkey hen prices are expected to decline further in coming months and average 10 to 12 cents a pound average below the 73 cents a

Turkey prices

Calendar quarter	Liveweight	New York, wholesale, frozen f.o.b. or equivalent		
		Young hens 8-16 lbs.	Young toms 14-20 lbs.	Young toms 24-26 lbs.
	Cents per pound			
1978				
I	37.9	60.2	59.0	62.2
II	39.4	61.4	61.0	68.5
III	43.1	68.2	67.7	70.0
IV	47.6	77.1	73.4	72.4
Year	42.0	66.7	65.3	68.3
1979				
I	45.2	70.2	70.0	72.3
II	41.8	66.2	62.8	66.6

Table 13— Turkey supply and consumption

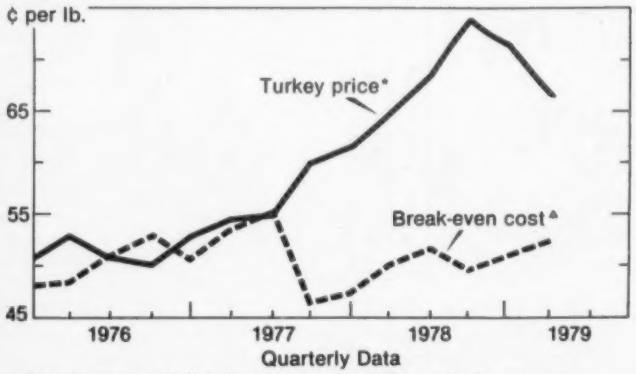
Year and quarters	Federally inspected slaughter				Total production RTC[1]	Per capita consumption
	Number	Av. wt.	Live wt. lb.	Certified RTC wt.		
	Mil.	*Lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Lbs.*
1977						
I	15.0	17.90	267.7	209.5	222.4	1.3
II	26.3	17.58	462.2	365.4	388.3	1.4
III	46.2	18.35	847.2	672.2	714.8	2.3
IV	40.8	19.96	815.3	645.3	686.4	4.2
Year	128.3	18.65	2,392.4	1,892.5	2,011.9	9.2
1978						
I	15.3	18.84	289.2	227.8	242.0	1.3
II	28.1	17.96	504.3	399.6	424.1	1.7
III	45.8	18.69	856.2	679.7	722.6	2.3
IV	42.6	20.05	853.7	676.4	719.5	4.1
Year	131.8	18.99	2,503.4	1,983.5	2,108.2	9.4
1979						
I	18.3	18.89	345.5	271.5	288.5	1.4
II	32.4	17.99	583.3	465.5	495.4	1.9

[1] Total production equals federally inspected slaughter plus other slaughter minus cut-up further processing condemnations.

Table 14— Turkey hatchery operations, United States, 1978-79

	Poults hatched						Eggs in incubator first of month change from prev. year		
	Light breeds		Heavy breeds		Total		Light	Heavy	Total
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1979	1979	1979
	Thousand						*Percent*		
January	499	955	11,288	12,813	11,787	13,768	100	15	18
February	610	1,008	13,135	14,607	13,745	15,615	59	7	10
March	652	1,052	17,409	19,025	18,061	20,077	49	9	10
April	703	1,138	18,385	19,851	19,088	20,989	53	7	9
May	799	1,209	19,835	20,578	20,634	21,787	44	3	5
June	729	1,231	18,073	18,661	18,802	19,892	66	3	5
July	729	1,236	14,520	15,583	15,249	16,819	70	7	10
August	762		8,806		9,568		33	19	20
September	529		5,081		5,610				
October	704		5,659		6,363				
November	983		7,363		8,346				
December	990		9,284		10,274				

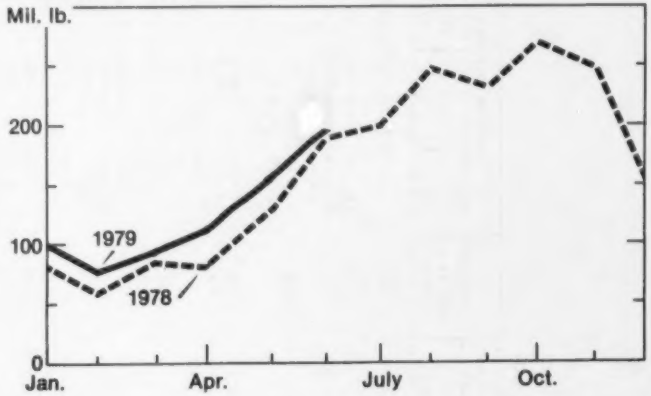
Turkeys
Break-Even Cost and Market Price



*Weighted average price in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles of 8 - 16 pound young hens and 24 - 26 pound young toms. ▲Estimated U.S. break-even cost.

USDA Neg. ESCS 2611-79 (9)

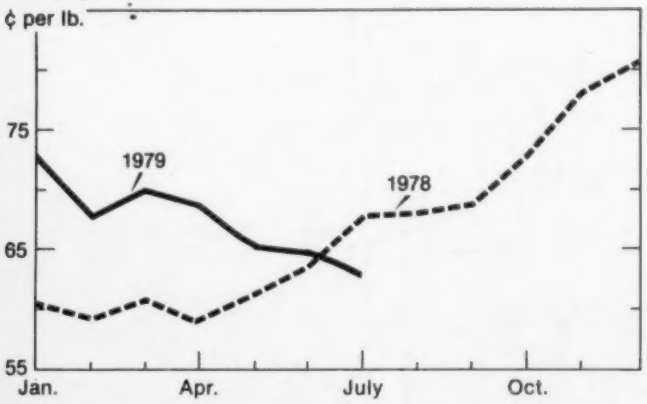
Turkey Slaughter*



*Certified ready-to-cook, under Federal inspection.

USDA Neg. ESCS 844-79 (9)

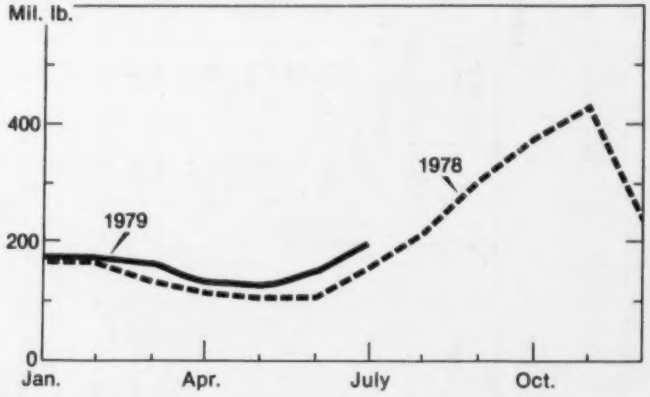
Turkey Prices*



*Young hens 8 - 16 pounds, New York.

USDA Neg. ESCS 67-79 (9)

Turkey Cold Storage Stocks*



*First of month.

USDA Neg. ESCS 5333-79 (9)

Table 15—Turkeys: Number raised[1]

State	Heavy breeds[4]			Light breeds[5]			Total all breeds		
	1978	1979	1979 as % of 1978	1978	1979	1979 as % of 1978	1978	1979	1979 as % of 1978
	1,000 head		*Percent*	*1,000 head*		*Percent*	*1,000 head*		*Percent*
Arkansas[2]							12,500	14,000	112
California	16,760	18,843	112	20	85		16,780	18,928	113
Colorado[2]							3,580	3,875	108
Connecticut	39	27	69	2	2	100	41	29	71
Georgia	1,799	2,479	138	0	0		1,799	2,479	138
Illinois	431	495	115	3	0		434	495	114
Indiana	4,624	5,432	117	31	11	35	4,655	5,443	117
Iowa	6,214	6,380	103	45	42	93	6,259	6,422	103
Kansas	129	190	147	0	0		129	190	147
Maine[3]	3			3			6		
Maryland	84	84	100	7	7	100	91	91	100
Massachusetts	128	113	88	18	28	56	146	141	97
Michigan[2]							1,210	1,200	99
Minnesota	17,319	19,518	113	4,919	5,558	113	22,238	25,076	113
Missouri[2]							10,500	10,870	104
Nebraska	490	651	133	0	0		490	651	133
New Hampshire	17	21	124	6	12	200	23	33	143
New Jersey	43	44	102	15	15	100	58	59	102
New York2							155	210	135
North Carolina[2]							18,854	23,450	124
North Dakota[2]							871	950	109
Ohio[2]							2,565	2,490	97
Oklahoma[2]							1,450	1,581	109
Oregon[2]							1,275	1,300	102
Pennsylvania	3,280	4,230	129	170	740		3,450	4,970	144
Rhode Island	10			0			10		
South Carolina	2,527	3,433	136	0			2,527	3,433	136
South Dakota[2]							979	1,226	125
Tennessee[3]	3			0			3		
Texas	7,300	8,000	110				7,300	8,000	110
Utah	2,794	2,921	105				2,794	2,921	105
Vermont[3]	11						13		
West Virginia	1,685	2,015	120	420	410	98	2,105	2,425	115
Wisconsin	5,680	([2])		26	([2])		5,706	5,679	100
Other States	[4]258			0			[4]8,804	[5]9,291	*
U.S.	130,800	[3]146,851	112	9,000	[3]11,057	123	139,800	[3]157,908	113

[1] Based on turkeys hatched September 1, 1978 through August 31, 1979. Excludes young turkeys lost. [2] Breakdown by breeds not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. [3] Estimate discontinued January 1, 1979. [4] Alabama, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico, Montana, Washington, Virginia, and Wyoming combined to avoid disclosing individual operations. [5] Delaware and Virginia combined to avoid disclosing individual operations. *Not comparable.

pound for July-December 1978. Large August 1 cold storage turkey stocks, higher turkey production, and increased pork and broiler production will depress turkey prices through the end of 1979 and into 1980.

Turkey Stocks Rise

Cold storage turkey stocks on January 1, 1979 were 7 million pounds above a year earlier. However, the July 1 stocks of 201 million pounds, were 48 million above a year earlier. The gain in stocks was due to larger turkey production combined with smaller exports and shipments. Stocks on August 1 totaled 271 million pounds, up 51 million pounds from a year earlier.

Production of turkey meat will continue above last year through the rest of 1979. Because of much lower domestic turkey prices, consumption, exports, and shipments will be larger in the second half of this year than last. However, these increases will not offset the larger production, and year-end turkey cold storage stocks likely will total around 75 million pounds more than 1978's year-end stocks of 175 million pounds.

USDA Begins Turkey Purchase Program

On June 28, USDA announced plans to buy turkeys and turkey rolls to be used in school lunch and other domestic food programs. Early purchases were whole carcass turkeys, while the buying of cooked rolls was phased in later.

Through August 22, USDA had purchased 14.9 million pounds of ready-to-cook young turkeys, 140,000 pounds of bulk pack turkey, and 700,000 pounds of cooked turkey rolls. This was the equivalent of 16.2 million pounds of ready-to-cook carcass. Purchases were made at a cost of $9.6 million. Last year, the first purchases of turkey by USDA were in mid-August.

Turkey Exports Below 1978

Turkey meat exports this year are running well below 1978 levels. The decline in exports this year is due largely to higher domestic prices. Through June, exports were down 22 percent to 19 million pounds. Whole turkey exports increased 2 percent, but cut-up turkeys declined 28 percent. However, parts still accounted for 80 percent of total turkey exports. With domestic prices declining and supplies increasing, exports of turkey during the balance of 1979 likely will increase and exceed 1978 levels during the second half.

Shipments to U.S. territories (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) during January-June totaled 911,000 pounds. This compared with 1.1 million pounds in the same months of 1978.

Turkey Prospects for First Half 1980

January-June 1980 prospects for the turkey industry at this time appear much less favorable than this year. The outlook is for a slow growth in the economy, larger carryover stocks of cold stor-

Table 16— Turkey: Supply and utilization, 1978-79

Year	Production[1]	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita
	Million pounds						*Pounds*	*Number*
1978:								
January	87.1	167.9	255.0	168.3	4.5	2.4	79.8	.37
February	63.4	168.3	231.7	136.6	3.7	.7	90.7	.42
March	91.8	133.0	228.4	113.0	6.6	.1	108.7	.50
April	85.9	113.0	198.9	101.1	4.6	.3	92.9	.43
May	137.3	101.1	238.4	103.9	2.3	.9	131.3	.61
June	201.4	103.9	305.3	152.1	3.4	.8	148.3	.69
July	212.6	152.8	3655.4	213.6	3.2	2.0	146.6	.68
August	265.0	213.6	477.6	301.2	4.6	1.2	171.6	.79
September	245.9	301.2	547.1	373.3	6.2	1.4	166.2	.77
October	288.8	373.3	662.1	425.4	7.9	2.6	226.2	1.04
November	265.1	425.4	690.5	236.2	6.0	1.5	446.8	2.06
December	166.4	236.2	402.6	175.1	4.1	1.4	222.0	1.02
1979:								
January	105.6	175.1	280.7	170.9	3.9	.9	105.0	.48
February	82.0	170.9	252.9	155.6	2.8	1.4	93.1	.43
March	100.9	155.6	256.5	135.8	3.0	.9	116.8	.54
April	119.4	135.8	255.2	128.9	2.8	.8	122.7	.56
May	167.4	128.9	296.3	152.9	3.2	1.6	138.6	.64
June	208.6	152.9	361.5	200.9	3.9	2.5	154.2	.71

[1] Total monthly production is estimated by multiplying the monthly federally inspected slaughter by the ratio of the annual total production to the annual federally inspected slaughter. The ratio used in 1978 is the same as the one in 1977. [2] Less than 100,000 pounds.

Table 17—Estimated 1st half 1980 turkey price/production relationships[1]

Total federally inspected		Estimated New York wholesale price for young hen turkeys[2]
Million dozens	Percent change from year earlier	
		Cents per pound
752	+20	50-52
721	+15	52-54
690	+10	54-56
659	+5	56-58
628	0	[3] 58-60
597	-5	60-62
566	-10	62-64
535	-15	64-66
504	-20	66-68

[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] Simple average for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys, f.o.b. dock or equivalent in carlots or truckiots, U.S. Grade A, frozen, ready-to-cook. [3] The estimated 58-60 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats, general economic activity, and cold storage holdings of turkey meat and assumes no change from a year earlier in the federally inspected slaughter of turkey.

The prices, other than the base 58-60 cents per pound were estimated by assuming the same conditions as under the base for competing meats, economic activity and cold storage holdings but various changes from a year earlier in the slaughter of turkey.

age turkey, increasing supplies of competing meats, and higher production and marketing costs.

Total red meat production during January-June 1980 is expected to be 3 to 5 percent above a year earlier. Beef production will continue to lag, but pork output will remain well above 1979. Broiler meat output is expected to continue to expand but at a slower rate than in 1979. Thus, total meat supplies in the first half of 1980 will be 2 to 4 percent higher than in 1979. In addition, cold storage turkey stocks on January 1, 1980 may be up 70 to 80 million pounds from the low levels of January 1, 1979.

If competing meat supplies, consumers' disposable incomes, and beginning year cold storage turkey stocks turn out about as expected, turkey output in January-June 1980 equal to a year earlier would result in prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys at New York averaging 58 to 60 cents, 8 to 10 cents a pound below January-June 1979. A 10-percent increase in output could cause prices to drop to the 54 to 56 cent level.

Table 18—Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs		Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs		Net returns[3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	14 metro areas price[2]	
	Cents per dozen				
Annual average[2]					
1972	17.3	28.9	43.3	40.5	-2.8
1973	29.2	41.7	58.1	64.3	6.2
1974	31.0	45.4	63.5	63.0	-0.4
1975	29.0	43.5	61.8	62.9	1.0
1976[4]	28.5	41.5	59.9	69.9	10.0
1977[4]	27.4	40.9	59.9	63.8	3.9
1978					
1976[4]					
I	26.7	39.7	58.1	67.7	9.6
II	27.7	40.7	59.1	62.5	3.4
II	31.3	44.3	62.7	71.2	8.5
IV	28.3	41.3	59.7	77.9	18.2
1977[4]					
I	29.6	43.1	62.1	74.4	12.4
II	31.7	45.2	64.2	58.9	-5.2
III	25.4	38.9	57.9	62.7	4.8
IV	23.4	36.9	55.9	59.4	3.5
1978[4 5]					
I	25.9	39.6	58.8	62.0	3.2
II	28.8	42.5	61.7	55.0	6.7
III	27.4	41.1	60.3	63.4	3.1
IV	26.8	40.5	59.7	68.2	8.5
1979[5]					
I	28.2	41.9	61.3	73.0	11.7
II	29.9	43.6	63.0	67.2	4.2

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly egg production less estimated eggs used for hatching. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for Grade A large eggs. [4] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [5] Preliminary.

Table 19—Estimated costs and returns for broilers[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	9-city weighted average price[2]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	9.0	14.3	28.2	28.2	-0.1
1973	16.4	22.2	39.8	42.4	2.6
1974	15.8	22.0	40.1	38.0	-2.0
1975	15.1	21.3	39.4	45.2	5.8
1976[4]	14.9	21.1	39.4	40.2	0.9
1977[4]	15.4	21.7	40.5	40.9	0.4
1978[4]	14.7	21.0	39.8	44.6	4.8
1976[4]					
I	13.5	19.7	37.5	42.1	4.7
II	13.9	20.1	38.0	41.7	3.7
III	16.4	22.6	41.4	41.5	0.1
IV	15.7	21.9	40.5	35.5	-5.0
1977[4]					
I	15.7	22.0	40.8	40.9	0.1
II	17.6	23.9	43.5	42.4	-1.1
III	16.0	22.3	41.3	42.3	1.0
IV	12.1	18.4	36.0	37.6	1.6
1978[4 5]					
I	13.9	20.2	38.7	41.8	3.1
II	15.0	21.3	40.2	47.7	7.5
III	15.4	21.7	40.8	46.5	5.7
IV	14.4	20.7	39.4	42.1	2.7
1979[5]					
I	15.2	21.6	41.0	47.4	6.4
II	16.0	22.4	42.1	47.7	5.6

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly broiler slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for ready-to-cook broilers. [4] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [5] Preliminary.

Table 20—Estimated costs and returns for turkeys[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	3-city composite price[2 4]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	13.5	20.5	34.1	35.8	1.7
1973	25.6	33.1	50.6	64.2	13.6
1974	22.5	30.7	48.8	45.6	-3.2
1975	22.1	30.7	49.4	55.1	5.8
1976[5]	22.4	31.4	50.9	51.0	0.1
1977[5]	22.6	31.6	51.4	56.2	4.9
1978[5]	21.5	30.5	50.2	68.8	18.7
1976[5]					
I	20.1	29.1	48.0	50.9	2.9
II	20.5	29.5	48.4	52.9	4.5
III	22.6	31.6	51.1	50.8	-0.2
IV	24.1	33.1	53.0	50.2	-2.7
1977[5]					
I	22.2	31.2	50.8	52.9	2.1
II	24.5	33.5	53.6	54.4	0.8
III	25.6	34.6	55.1	54.9	-0.2
IV	18.7	27.7	46.4	59.8	13.4
1978[5 6]					
I	19.2	28.2	47.4	61.5	14.1
II	21.3	30.3	50.0	64.5	14.5
III	22.8	31.8	51.8	68.7	16.9
IV	21.0	30.0	49.6	74.0	24.4
1979					
I	21.9	31.0	51.1	71.6	20.4
II	22.9	32.0	52.5	66.4	13.9

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly turkey slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for heavy young turkeys. [4] Weighted average of 8-16 young hens and 24-26 pound young toms in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. [5] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [6] Preliminary.

Table 21—Prices and price spreads for eggs and frying chickens, by regions and 4-region average

Item	Grade A large eggs			U.S. Grade A fryers		
	April 1979	May 1979	June 1979	April 1979	May 1979	June 1979
	Cents per dozen			*Cents per pound*		
Northeast prices						
Farm price	54.9	48.8	52.2	39.0	39.4	36.8
Price to retailer	70.2	64.0	66.2	51.7	54.1	51.4
Retail price	91.5	88.6	87.4	73.0	71.0	69.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	36.6	39.8	35.2	34.0	31.6	32.7
Farm to retailer	15.3	15.2	14.0	12.7	14.7	14.6
Retail	21.3	24.6	21.2	21.3	16.9	18.1
Midwest prices						
Farm prices	54.8	48.2	49.6	36.9	39.4	37.0
Price to retailer	68.7	61.8	64.5	52.0	53.5	50.6
Retail price	85.6	72.7	84.0	68.5	69.5	66.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	30.8	24.5	34.4	31.6	30.1	29.5
Farm to retailer	13.9	13.6	14.9	15.1	14.1	13.6
Retail	16.9	10.9	19.5	16.5	16.0	15.9
Southern prices						
Farm price	50.2	45.1	48.1	37.0	38.6	37.4
Price to retailers	73.3	66.7	67.9	48.1	49.3	47.4
Retail prices	86.6	80.1	81.3	69.0	72.0	70.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	36.4	35.0	33.2	32.0	33.4	33.1
Farm to retailer	23.1	21.6	19.8	11.1	10.7	10.0
Retail	13.3	13.4	13.4	20.9	22.7	23.1
Western prices						
Farm price	57.6	50.1	49.5	37.7	41.7	37.6
Price to retailer	76.7	69.3	68.8	61.2	61.1	59.9
Retail price	83.1	77.0	77.0	70.5	72.0	72.0
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	25.5	26.9	27.5	32.8	30.3	34.4
Farm to retailer	19.1	19.2	19.3	23.5	19.4	22.3
Retail	6.4	7.7	8.2	9.3	10.9	12.1
4-Region average						
Farm price	54.4	48.1	49.9	37.7	39.8	37.2
Price to retailer	72.2	65.5	66.9	53.3	54.5	52.3
Retail price	86.7	79.6	82.4	70.3	71.1	69.6
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	32.3	31.5	32.5	32.6	31.3	32.4
Farm to retailer	17.8	17.4	17.0	15.6	14.7	15.1
Retail	14.5	14.1	15.5	17.0	16.6	17.3

Table 22—Prices and price spreads for medium turkeys by region January-June 1979

	January	February	March	April	May	June
	Pounds					
Northeast prices						
Farm price	63.2	58.1	56.9	56.5	53.8	53.9
Price to retailer	80.9	74.2	75.4	73.7	70.1	68.5
Retail price	91.0	91.5	91.5	90.0	93.5	94.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	27.8	33.4	34.6	33.5	39.7	40.1
Farm to retailer	17.7	16.1	18.5	17.2	16.3	14.6
Retail	10.1	17.3	16.1	16.3	23.4	25.5
Midwest prices						
Farm price	63.2	58.1	57.0	56.4	53.8	53.8
Price to retailer	81.4	75.5	71.8	73.4	71.5	70.4
Retail price	91.0	89.5	91.0	90.5	89.5	89.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	27.8	31.4	34.0	34.1	35.7	35.7
Farm to retailer	18.2	17.4	14.8	17.0	17.7	16.6
Retail	9.6	14.0	19.2	17.1	18.0	19.1
Southern prices	–					
Farm prices	63.2	58.1	57.2	56.5	53.8	53.8
Price to retailer	84.6	84.6	82.8	82.4	83.5	67.0
Retail price	90.5	89.5	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	27.3	31.4	31.8	32.5	35.2	35..2
Farm to retailer	21.4	26.5	25.6	25.9	29.7	13.2
Retail	5.9	4.9	6.2	6.6	5.5	22.0
Western prices						
Farm price	63.2	58.1	58.0	58.1	53.9	53.9
Price to retailer	84.1	79.5	77.6	78.0	75.2	72.3
Retail price	88.5	88.5	92.0	93.0	92.5	93.0
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	25.3	30.4	34.0	34.9	38.6	39.1
Farm to retailer	20.9	21.4	19.6	19.9	21.3	18.4
Retail	4.4	9.0	14.4	15.0	17.3	20.7
4-Region average						
Farm price	63.2	58.1	57.3	56.9	53.8	53.9
Price to retailer	82.8	78.5	76.9	76.9	75.1	69.6
Retail price	90.3	89.8	90.9	90.6	91.1	91.4
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	27.1	31.7	33.6	33.7	37.3	37.5
Farm to retailer	19.6	20.4	19.6	20.0	21.3	15.7
Retail	7.5	11.3	14.0	13.7	16.0	21.8

Table 23– Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in–	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 1.–Eggs: Production and disposition														
Number of layers:														
First of month														
1977	Mil.	280.0	276.8	275.0	273.8	270.2	268.4	266.2	268.5	274.3	279.4	282.6	286.6	
1978	Mil.	287.5	283.9	280.7	279.4	277.9	277.1	274.1	274.4	277.8	283.0	287.7	292.2	
1979	Mil.	290.4	291.3	289.3	287.2	283.2	279.9	280.0	281.3					
Average for month														
1977	Mil.	278.4	275.9	274.4	272.0	269.3	267.3	267.4	271.4	276.8	281.0	284.6	287.0	275.5
1978	Mil.	285.7	282.3	280.0	278.7	277.5	275.6	274.3	276.1	280.4	285.3	289.9	291.3	281.4
1979	Mil.	290.8	290.3	288.3	285.2	281.6	280.0	280.6						
Eggs per 100 layers:														
First of month														
1977	No.	63.5	62.7	64.6	65.7	65.7	65.4	64.5	63.6	64.0	64.0	64.4	65.1	
1978	No.	65.3	64.3	64.7	66.5	66.3	66.5	65.4	64.6	65.2	65.0	64.8	65.5	
1979	No.	65.5	64.6	65.0	66.6	66.2	66.7	66.0	65.4					
Average for month														
1977	No.	1,956	1,782	2,021	1,971	2,034	1,950	1,986	1,978	1,921	1,990	1,944	2,021	23,554
1978	No.	2,009	1,808	2,034	1,993	2,061	1,979	2,016	2,012	1,954	2,011	1,956	2,033	23,866
1979	No.	2,019	1,816	2,041	1,993	2,061	1,991	2,038						
Monthly egg production														
1977	Mil. doz.	453.9	409.7	462.2	446.8	456.5	434.4	442.5	447.4	443.2	466.0	461.2	483.4	5,407
1978	Mil. doz.	478.2	425.2	474.7	462.8	476.7	454.5	460.7	462.8	456.5	478.2	472.5	493.5	5,596
1979	Mil. doz.	489.2	439.3	490.3	473.7	483.6	464.5	476.6						
Eggs used for hatching														
1977	Mil. doz.	32.1	38.3	38.9	39.8	37.3	35.5	34.9	33.3	34.5	33.0	35.3	36.6	429
1978	Mil. doz.	33.8	39.2	40.2	43.0	40.6	38.8	38.5	36.0	37.4	36.3	38.8	40.3	463
1979	Mil. doz.	37.0	43.6	43.5	45.9	44.2	42.2							
Eggs broken commercially														
1977	Mil. doz.	43.9	45.6	56.3	57.0	65.0	70.1	61.3	64.2	58.8	54.8	56.0	53.2	686
1978	Mil. doz.	53.9	47.1	53.8	53.1	65.6	71.4	58.8	64.2	56.9	58.7	50.7	51.9	686
1979	Mil. doz.	54.8	47.3	53.1	53.2	62.9	66.0							
Cold Storage stocks:														
Frozen egg products														
1977	Mil. lbs.	26.1	26.9	24.9	24.6	25.3	28.0	31.4	35.1	35.4	33.7	33.4	31.2	
1978	Mil. lbs.	29.7	27.0	25.5	22.9	22.9	22.2	26.6	28.0	28.7	28.7	27.6	25.6	
1979	Mil. lbs.	25.3	25.6	24.5	21.1	21.7	21.6	22.8	26.7					
Shell eggs														
1977	Mil. doz.	.8	.8	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	
1978	Mil. doz.	1.2	1.0	.8	.8	1.1	.9	.8	.8	1.4	1.3	.7	1.1	
1979	Mil. doz.	1.1	.7	.5	.7	.6	.8	.7	1.0					
Shell equivalent all eggs[1]														
1977	Mil. doz.	20.7	21.2	20.2	19.9	20.5	22.2	25.0	27.8	28.3	27.1	26.9	25.2	
1978	Mil. doz.	23.7	21.5	20.2	18.1	18.5	17.7	21.0	22.0	23.2	23.1	21.7	20.5	
1979	Mil. doz.	20.3	20.1	19.1	16.7	17.1	17.2	18.1	21.3					
Exports:														
Shell eggs														
1977	Mil. doz.	2.5	2.1	3.6	2.9	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.3	5.1	5.2	5.3	4.9	48
1978	Mil. doz.	7.1	2.6	4.6	3.5	5.2	3.1	2.7	2.8	4.2	4.8	3.3	2.8	47
1979	Mil. doz.	2.7	2.5	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.0							
Shell equivalent all eggs[1]														
1977	Mil. doz.	3.1	2.5	4.4	3.9	5.7	6.1	6.4	6.4	7.6	6.5	6.7	7.5	67
1978	Mil. doz.	11.8	8.1	11.8	8.5	9.7	7.1	6.2	5.4	6.7	8.7	6.6	6.0	97
1979	Mil. doz.	5.5	6.0	6.2	6.8	5.3	5.2							
Per capita consumption:														
Shell eggs														
1977	No.	20.9	17.9	20.1	19.2	19.4	18.1	19.1	19.1	19.0	20.7	20.2	21.4	235
1978	No.	21.1	18.6	20.7	20.0	20.3	18.7	19.9	19.7	19.8	20.8	20.7	21.8	242
1979	No.	21.7	18.9	21.3	20.3	20.2	19.1							
All eggs[1]														
1977	No.	23.3	20.5	23.2	22.2	22.7	21.8	22.2	22.5	22.2	23.6	23.3	24.2	272
1978	No.	23.9	21.0	23.4	22.6	23.7	22.2	22.8	23.1	22.8	23.8	23.4	24.5	277
1979	No.	24.5	21.3	24.2	23.0	23.8	22.5							
Table 2.–Eggs: Prices for shell eggs and egg products														
Shell eggs (price per dozen):														
Received by farmers, U.S.[2] [3]														
1977	Cents	66.1	65.5	58.9	55.4	49.2	47.3	50.9	51.6	52.3	47.8	51.2	53.3	54.2
1978	Cents	49.2	54.7	54.8	51.7	49.2	43.7	49.6	52.7	54.4	52.7	58.0	61.6	52.7
1979	Cents	60.3	60.1	64.3	60.2	56.7	55.6	53.4						
Midwest cities, large eggs, paid by first receivers[4]														
1977	Cents	78.5	75.4	67.0	62.6	55.1	54.6	61.6	60.9	61.7	55.6	57.8	62.7	62.8
1978	Cents	57.2	65.0	64.1	58.1	53.4	50.6	61.8	62.9	64.2	61.5	67.1	72.5	61.5
1979	Cents	71.8	69.9	73.6	69.9	63.6	64.6	64.2						

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 23—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 2.—Eggs: Prices for shell eggs and egg products—Continued														
Price to volume buyers, cartoned Grade A large[5]														
13-metro areas														
1977	Cents	78.98	76.61	67.99	63.28	56.09	57.52	63.07	62.67	62.49	56.33	58.44	63.34	63.90
1978	Cents	57.86	64.05	64.31	59.04	54.62	51.34	61.75	63.45	64.97	62.34	68.76	73.30	62.15
1979	Cents	72.79	70.17	75.66	71.33	64.34	66.08	64.45						
New York														
1977	Cents	81.04	76.25	67.39	61.38	55.05	57.00	62.35	61.35	60.81	56.05	56.57	64.05	63.27
1978	Cents	57.15	64.94	64.00	57.90	52.86	50.62	62.75	62.75	63.75	62.14	68.75	72.65	61.68
1979	Cents	72.50	68.00	75.74	69.57	62.55	66.10	64.00						
Chicago														
1977	Cents	78.74	75.55	67.50	62.45	55.69	57.00	62.75	59.33	59.29	53.68	55.05	61.52	62.38
1978	Cents	55.19	62.84	62.04	56.95	52.00	49.29	61.15	61.78	63.20	60.81	67.15	71.65	60.34
1979	Cents	71.27	67.68	73.50	68.71	61.91	64.81	61.90						
Los Angeles, Grade AA														
1977	Cents	78.29	76.47	70.13	67.29	61.05	64.00	66.50	69.00	68.30	60.68	65.10	65.62	67.70
1978	Cents	60.14	62.74	66.43	61.00	60.41	53.40	62.10	64.11	66.90	64.10	71.15	76.10	64.05
1979	Cents	75.91	75.47	80.14	77.43	69.27	68.10	66.00						
Egg products (price per lb.):														
Frozen, New York–Philadelphia[6]														
Whole, light colored														
1977	Cents	50.47	48.28	45.46	41.61	41.11	39.53	38.56	37.19	37.08	36.14	37.50	35.03	40.66
1978	Cents	33.12	34.29	35.89	37.50	37.91	36.50	37.79	40.33	40.72	41.34	46.31	47.19	39.07
1979	Cents	43.25	41.36	42.94	42.56	44.53	43.31	42.31						
Whites														
1977	Cents	32.31	32.16	31.03	30.19	30.69	29.75	28.76	27.17	26.47	25.39	25.97	25.06	28.75
1978	Cents	24.50	25.57	27.00	28.34	29.47	27.41	28.29	30.28	31.38	32.00	35.53	36.31	29.67
1979	Cents	35.03	34.00	34.39	34.66	35.47	34.17	33.44						
Yolks, sugared														
1977	Cents	79.20	76.62	71.78	65.50	64.11	63.00	63.19	62.50	63.03	61.75	62.53	59.31	66.04
1978	Cents	55.16	54.96	54.83	55.59	55.75	54.03	54.86	57.50	59.56	60.38	65.50	66.44	57.88
1979	Cents	62.06	60.57	62.78	63.62	64.75	64.39	65.06						
Dried, New York														
Whole														
1977	Dollars	2.04	2.00	(7)	1.64	1.65	1.63	1.62	1.55	1.52	1.46	1.51	1.43	(7)
1978	Dollars	1.37	1.38	1.44	1.50	1.53	1.47	1.51	1.61	1.63	1.62	1.73	1.80	1.55
1979	Dollars	1.71	1.68	1.68	1.71	1.74	1.76	1.78						
Yolks														
1977	Dollars	2.05	1.98	1.80	1.58	1.60	1.61	1.58	1.54	1.52	1.46	1.50	1.42	1.64
1978	Dollars	1.333	1.37	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.40	1.43	1.50	1.54	1.54	1.61	1.62	1.47
1979	Dollars	1.52	1.49	1.49	1.54	1.58	1.56	1.57						
Albumen, spray dried														
1977	Dollars	2.66	2.61	2.55	2.48	2.47	2.43	2.38	2.27	2.21	2.08	2.01	1.96	2.34
1978	Dollars	1.88	1.91	2.08	2.33	2.37	2.31	2.34	2.48	2.55	2.61	2.71	2.83	2.37
1979	Dollars	2.77	2.69	2.70	2.73	2.77	2.77	2.77						
Table 3.—Poultry: Slaughter in federally inspected plants														
Young chicken:														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	255.8	241.5	284.9	268.6	292.0	308.6	277.3	318.6	288.5	273.4	258.6	266.2	3,334
1978	Mil.	276.5	257.5	297.3	271.6	319.9	317.6	293.1	335.5	293.4	309.8	274.5	269.6	3,516
1979	Mil.	317.3	268.6	321.4	315.7	360.0	334.8							
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	989	913	1,083	1,028	1,115	1,162	1,029	1,199	1,111	1,068	997	1,045	12,741
1978	Mil. lbs.	1,084	993	1,149	1,066	1,245	1,209	1,107	1,287	1,147	1,233	1,075	1,063	13,656
1979	Mil. lbs.	1,247	1,041	1,253	1,232	1,400	1,305							
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	713.8	659.2	783.2	744.9	809.9	843.7	745.5	870.4	808.2	775.5	719.8	753.2	9,227
1978	Mil. lbs.	781.4	715.7	830.0	769.1	902.6	874.9	801.7	930.8	834.0	896.4	779.1	767.3	9,883
1979	Mil. lbs.	897.3	749.1	905.0	889.8	1,013.5	940.7							
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	246.8	247.0	304.9	282.9	304.6	315.6	270.1	355.0	307.9	296.6	288.4	301.6	3,522
1978	Mil. lbs.	309.4	273.6	326.3	294.0	326.6	320.2	293.1	341.2	310.4	335.0	310.4	296.9	3,717
1979	Mil. lbs.	335.5	288.6	355.7	310.9	370.5	335.7							
Further processed, RTC weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	50.5	52.9	66.5	58.3	53.1	67.8	59.8	65.8	60.3	60.4	61.0	59.9	716
1978	Mmil. lbs.	92.4	58.6	66.5	62.2	72.9	78.3	70.1	78.3	69.6	77.0	64.0	70.3	830
1979	Mil. lbs.	79.7	72.1	90.0	81.1	94.6	84.0							

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 23–Selected poultry and egg statistics*–Continued

Item	Data in–	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 3.–Poultry: Slaughtered in federally inspected plants–Continued														
Mature chicken:														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	16.6	16.7	19.5	18.8	16.6	18.0	11.6	14.0	15.5	15.0	14.0	16.5	193
1978	Mil.	18.1	17.6	20.1	14.9	15.7	18.[illegible]	13.2	13.5	14.1	16.4	13.7	15.3	191
1979	Mil.	18.3	16.0	18.9	19.3	17.0	14.7							
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	70.1	69.0	83.5	79.6	71.9	78.1	49.1	60.4	68.6	65.5	61.1	70.6	828
1978	Mil. lbs.	74.6	73.0	83.5	64.3	68.3	77.8	57.8	60.8	62.7	72.1	60.9	66.1	822
1979	Mil. lbs.	78.2	68.4	82.0	83.3	76.5	69.2							
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	43.6	42.6	51.5	48.6	44.3	48.3	30.4	37.5	42.6	40.7	38.0	44.0	512
1978	Mil. lbs.	46.0	45.2	51.5	39.7	42.3	47.6	35.9	38.1	39.3	44.5	38.0	40.8	509
1979	Mil. lbs.	47.9	42.0	50.8	51.4	47.1	43.7							
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	.7	.8	1.0	1.3	.8	.8	.7	.9	1.1	.8	.7	.9	10
1978	Mil. lbs.	.9	.4	.7	2.2	.9	.9	.6	1.1	.7	1.7	.7	.2	11
1979	Mil. lbs.	.7	.3	.6	.7	.6	.2							
Further processed, RTC weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	37.8	38.5	43.1	39.5	35.9	33.1	22.4	35.7	32.4	34.8	31.4	33.4	418
1978	Mil. lbs.	38.5	38.5	39.9	36.5	40.8	39.1	23.2	40.5	36.3	46.2	39.2	34.7	453
1979	Mil. lbs.	44.8	40.8	46.0	38.3	44.1	35.2							
Turkeys:														
Fryers–Roasters														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	.4	.8	1.1	.7	.8	1.0	.9	.9	.8	.7	.8	.5	9
1978	Mil.	.5	.5	.6	.4	.6	.7	.6	.8	.6	.5	.7	.4	.7
1979	Mil.	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.8							
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	4.0	7.2	9.8	6.4	7.3	9.6	8.2	8.0	7.4	7.0	7.9	4.3	87
1978	Mil. lbs.	4.7	4.9	5.0	3.6	5.9	6.8	5.3	7.5	5.4	4.7	7.1	3.3	64
1979	Mil. lbs.	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.8	5.2	8.0							
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	3.2	5.8	7.8	5.1	5.8	7.6	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.5	6.2	3.4	69
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.7	3.9	4.0	2.9	4.7	5.3	4.2	5.9	4.2	3.7	5.5	2.5	51
1979	Mil. lbs.	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.1	6.4							
Young turkey														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	4.0	3.4	5.0	5.1	7.2	11.2	12.2	15.7	15.3	15.2	14.8	8.8	118
1978	Mil.	4.5	3.6	5.5	5.4	8.5	12.1	12.8	15.8	14.8	16.5	15.0	9.4	124
1979	Mil.	5.6	4.7	6.2	7.4	10.2	12.5							
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	84.8	66.2	90.7	92.9	130.6	208.8	227.1	297.9	291.6	308.9	303.0	183.3	2,286
1978	Mil. lbs.	98.8	70.3	103.3	97.4	155.4	228.1	241.3	303.0	284.9	335.4	305.8	195.0	2,419
1979	Mil. lbs.	120.9	91.8	113.4	133.2	190.2	232.8							
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	66.1	51.9	71.0	73.1	103.3	165.4	180.2	236.7	231.2	244.5	240.3	144.7	1,808
1978	Mil. lbs.	77.6	55.3	81.5	77.4	122.7	181.0	192.4	240.7	225.5	266.6	242.6	153.6	1,917
1979	Mil. lbs.	94.1	72.4	89.9	106.0	151.6	186.5							
Total turkey*														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	4.5	4.3	6.1	5.8	8.0	12.5	13.3	16.7	16.2	15.9	15.7	9.3	128
1978	Mil.	5.0	4.2	6.1	5.8	9.3	13.0	13.6	16.8	15.5	17.1	15.7	9.8	132
1979	Mil.	6.3	5.3	6.8	8.1	10.8	13.5							
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	90.5	74.8	102.4	100.2	139.1	228.8	239.1	307.6	300.6	316.2	311.3	187.9	2,392
1978	Mil. lbs.	104.1	75.7	109.4	101.7	163.7	238.9	250.8	313.5	291.9	341.2	313.9	198.6	2,503
1979	Mil. lbs.	127.8	97.9	119.8	141.2	197.5	244.6							
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	70.5	58.7	80.3	78.9	110.0	176.5	1899.6	244.4	238.2	250.3	246.8	148.2	1,892
1978	Mil. lbs.	81.8	59.7	86.3	80.8	129.3	189.5	199.9	248.8	230.9	271.2	248.9	156.3	1,983
1979	Mil. lbs.	99.3	77.2	95.0	112.3	157.3	195.9							
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	29.0	27.6	32.5	27.7	28.6	39.0	37.2	46.7	41.9	40.0	41.0	35.1	426
1978	Mil. lbs.	32.8	30.4	35.8	32.4	40.8	37.3	39.0	48.0	44.6	45.4	42.8	36.7	466
1979	Mil. lbs.	41.7	34.4	40.5	37.4	44.9	43.9							
Further processed, RTC weight														
Whole bird*														
1977	Mil. lbs.	6.9	7.9	12.4	16.5	24.0	38.2	51.6	66.8	75.5	75.2	56.6	27.6	459
1978	Mil. lbs.	11.1	9.4	10.4	9.9	24.3	43.3	59.2	72.2	78.0	86.0	72.0	25.2	501
1979	Mil. lbs.	15.8	13.9	20.7	19.2	35.0	55.7							
Other														
1977	Mil. lbs.	43.3	42.9	56.8	44.1	50.8	62.4	59.2	67.3	65.8	67.9	61.4	43.5	665
1978	Mil. lbs.	45.2	44.2	53.4	42.5	53.2	62.1	59.8	81.4	71.4	76.5	72.4	48.3	710
1979	Mil. lbs.	50.9	50.9	58.1	51.5	66.7	61.0							

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 23—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Seppt.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 4.—Total poultry slaughter and commercial red meat production														
Total poultry slaughter, ready-to-coook weight[10]														
1977	Mil. lbs.	849	780	938	895	988	1,095	988	1,179	1,115	1,092	1,028	969	11,916
1978	Mil. lbs.	932	831	981	901	1,088	1,127	1,052	1,234	1,119	1,229	1,081	978	12,553
1979	Mil. lbs.	1,057	878	1,063	1,066	1,232	1,195							
Commercial red meat production, carcass weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	3,237	3,084	3,551	3,195	3,122	3,298	2,925	3,404	3,354	3,345	3,416	3,241	39,172
1978	Mil. lbs.	3,215	3,045	3,342	3,079	3,269	3,081	2,883	3,274	3,139	3,355	3,345	3,094	38,119
1979	Mil. lbs.	3,281	2,758	3,093	2,882	3,133	2,990	2,960						
Table 5.—Poultry: Cold storage holdings and exports														
Cold storage holdings, first of month (ready-to-cook weight)														
Broilers, fryers, roasters														
1977	Mil. lbs.	32.9	27.4	24.6	26.5	25.2	27.9	31.3	30.3	29.6	30.7	31.2	33.3	
1978	Mil. lbs.	29.4	27.5	21.8	21.8	22.5	19.8	21.1	21.7	20.9	21.1	22.8	23.2	
1979	Mil. lbs.	20.1	17.9	17.7	18.3	16.3	16.8	18.6	22.7					
Total chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	154.5	139.3	131.5	134.6	134.4	139.3	146.4	148.7	147.7	148.0	145.9	142.6	
1978	Mil. lbs.	138.6	133.3	124.2	118.9	107.2	108.0	102.3	108.6	109.7	110.2	107.8	106.3	
1979	Mil. lbs.	101.9	106.3	100.7	100.9	103.9	107.4	122.8	134.4					
Turkey														
Whole bird														
1977	Mil. lbs.	147.8	134.6	118.0	94.5	82.5	93.3	146.0	197.7	268.2	340.4	374.1	207.4	
1978	Mil. lbs.	108.9	107.2	86.2	66.8	59.2	65.4	105.7	161.2	238.2	307.3	355.5	176.5	
1979	Mil. lbs.	117.0	112.1	100.1	86.6	80.9	102.1	146.4	210.3					
Other														
1977	Mil. lbs.	55.6	55.7	49.8	47.8	47.8	44.9	55.4	55.9	61.7	68.8	70.4	62.0	
1978	Mil. lbs.	59.1	61.1	50.4	46.2	41.9	38.4	47.2	52.4	62.9	65.9	70.0	59.7	
1979	Mil. lbs.	58.1	58.7	55.5	49.2	48.0	50.8	54.5	60.5					
Total turkey														
1977	Mil. lbs.	203.4	190.3	167.8	142.3	130.3	138.2	201.4	253.6	329.9	409.3	444.5	269.4	
1978	Mil. lbs.	167.9	168.3	136.6	113.0	101.1	103.9	152.8	213.6	301.2	373.3	425.4	236.2	
1979	Mil. lbs.	175.1	170.9	155.6	135.8	128.9	152.9	200.9	270.7					
Total poultry														
1977	Mil. lbs.	362.8	334.6	302.8	279.4	267.3	281.1	353.2	409.2	484.6	566.0	598.6	417.8	
1978	Mil. lbs.	310.0	304.6	262.7	233.4	209.7	213.3	257.0	325.8	415.9	488.9	538.3	346.4	
1979	Mil. lbs.	280.1	280.3	259.2	239.3	235.0	262.9	327.2	410.4					
Exports (ready-to-cook weight):														
Young chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	27.1	25.0	18.9	25.8	25.8	20.5	35.8	27.5	26.8	31.9	22.3	25.9	313
1978	Mil. lbs.	21.9	21.9	35.1	25.7	27.7	20.9	27.4	33.3	28.7	31.5	25.4	31.5	331
1979	Mil. lbs.	29.1	23.7	36.5	25.3	25.3	32.1							
Other chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	2.7	2.3	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.7	3.5	4.1	36
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.0	2.3	2.7	4.4	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	3.0	2.2	2.8	2.6	30
1979	Mil. lbs.	2.9	2.2	2.8	1.7	1.5	2.0							
Turkey														
1977	Mil. lbs.	2.9	3.3	2.1	2.4	3.9	5.0	5.2	6.9	6.1	4.4	5.5	6.0	54
1978	Mil. lbs.	4.3	3.6	6.1	4.4	2.2	3.3	3.0	4.5	5.3	4.9	5.4	4.0	51
1979	Mil. lbs.	3.7	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.6							
Table 6.—Poultry: Chicken and turkey prices														
Broilers:														
Liveweight, U.S. at farm[11]														
1977	Cents	21.9	24.3	24.2	24.2	24.1	24.9	25.9	24.1	23.8	22.7	21.3	20.2	23.5
1978	Cents	22.9	24.8	25.7	27.8	27.8	30.5	31.6	26.2	26.2	24.6	24.5	24.9	26.4
1979	Cents	27.0	28.9	28.9	28.2	29.0	26.4	25.5						
Wholesale weighted average, ready-to-cook weight[12]														
9-city average[13]														
1977	Cents	38.8	42.1	41.9	41.4	42.2	43.3	44.3	42.0	40.9	39.2	37.3	36.2	40.8
1978	Cents	40.2	43.1	42.2	46.1	46.1	50.7	50.8	44.1	44.9	42.0	42.0	42.2	44.5
1979	Cents	45.8	49.2	47.5	47.5	49.4	46.1	42.8						
New York														
1977	Cents	38.0	40.7	41.1	41.0	41.8	43.7	43.8	41.6	40.3	38.8	36.0	35.5	40.2
1978	Cents	39.3	42.3	41.0	44.6	44.8	50.1	50.2	43.6	44.2	40.8	40.7	41.2	43.6
1979	Cents	44.8	48.4	46.7	46.6	48.5	45.1	41.7						

*See footnote at end of table.

Table 23—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Augg.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 6.—Poultry: Chicken and turkey prices—Continued														
Chicago (U.S. Grade A)														
1977	Cents	38.7	41.4	42.0	41.1	41.8	42.7	43.8	41.9	40.6	38.8	36.9	35.9	40.5
1978	Cents	40.0	42.8	41.9	46.1	45.5	50.1	50.2	43.3	44.4	41.5	41.7	42.0	44.1
1979	Cents	45.4	48.7	47.1	46.7	49.0	45.3	41..4						
Los Angeles														
1977	Cents	40.7	42.9	43.3	42.5	43.9	43.8	45.7	43.6	42.8	41.4	38.9	38.6	42.3
1978	Cents	42.1	45.2	44.7	49.2	49.1	52.4	52.7	46.4	46.9	44.9	44.9	44.5	46.9
1979	Cents	48.2	51.5	50.1	50.0	51.4	48.9	46.4						
Turkeys:														
Liveweight, U.S. at farm[3]														
1977	Cents	32.2	32.0	33.9	33.5	33.6	34.2	33.8	33.8	34.4	36.5	39.0	40.2	34.8
1978	Cents	38.3	37.3	38.1	38.1	39.5	40.7	42.0	43.4	44.0	45.7	47.2	49.9	42.0
1979	Cents	47.2	45.1	43.4	43.1	42.2	40.0	38.3						
Wholesale, frozen, f.o.b. or equivalent, RTC weight[1 4]														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	48.7	49.7	52.3	53.6	50.8	50.0	50.8	53.4	54.9	57.4	60.7	65.8	54.0
1978	Cents	60.5	59.2	60.9	59.2	61.3	63.6	67.8	68.0	68.7	72.7	78.0	80.5	66.7
1979	Cents	72.9	67..6	70.0	68.6	65.2	64.7	63.0						
Toms, 14-20 pounds														
1977	Cents	50.9	51.2	52.0	53.0	51.4	50.6	49.8	52.4	55.6	58.8	60.5	59.9	53.8
1978	Cents	57.6	58.9	59.6	59.1	60.7	63.4	65.6	67.8	69.8	71.2	74.0	75.0	65.3
1979	Cents	74.0	68.3	67.8	67.1	63.1	58.0	57.2						
Toms, 24-26 pounds														
1977	Cents	54.2	55.4	57.3	58.1	59.3	59.0	58.1	56.8	56.8	59.0	59.9	60.7	57.9
1978	Cents	61.8	62.1	62.8	65.3	68.9	71.4	70.0	70.0	70.0	71.3	72.0	73.9	68.3
1979	Cents	74.9	72.1	70.0	68.1	66.7	64.9	64.2						
Chicago														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	47.9	48.7	51.3	52.6	49.8	49.1	49.9	52.6	54.2	56.3	59.9	65.1	53.1
1978	Cents	60.2	58.2	60.4	58.3	60.2	62.8	(7)	67.6	67.6	71.1	(7)	79.2	64.6
1979	Cents	73.4	66.4	(7)	67.7	64.0	63.7	62.2						
Toms, 14-20 pounds														
1977	Cents	51.4	51.7	51.7	51.8	51.1	49.7	49.1	51.4	54.6	58.0	59.7	59.2	53.3
1978	Cents	58.7	59.0	58.9	59.1	(8)	62.6	65.2	67.0	68.4	70.1	72.6	73.8	65.0
1979	Cents	72.9	66.8	66.2	66.5	63.2	57.4	56.3						
Toms, 24-26 pounds														
1977	Cents	54.0	54.7	56.6	56.8	57.8	57.8	57.0	55.7	56.0	57.9	59.1	59.8	56.9
1978	Cents	61.0	61.4	62.1	(8)	(8)	(8)	69.0	68.9	69.2	70.5	71.2	73.4	67.4
1979	Cents	74.1	71.3	69.5	68.1	66.2	64.8	63.4						
Paid at seller's dock frozen, ready-to-cook weight[1 5]														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	51.9	52.6	55.4	56.6	54.4	53.9	53.9	56.8	57.5	60.3	64.2	70.1	57.3
1978	Cents	66.3	62.4	64.2	62.4	64.3	66.9	70.6	72.2	72.6	75.8	80.8	84.9	70.3
1979	Cents	78.8	72.2	73.4	73.2	68.6	67.9	66.9						
Toms, heaviest weight quoted														
1977	Cents	72.5	70.2	68.8	68.8	69.0	70.1	72.1	73.2	73.6	74.6	75.5	78.2	72.2
1978	Cents	78.5	78.5	78.9	79.0	82.2	86.1	86.8	87.0	87.0	89.1	91.6	90.7	84.6
1979	Cents	91.0	90.8	90.0	89.5	90.9	91.0	91..0						
Chicago														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	50.6	50..6	53.7	55.4	53.4	52.1	52.5	55.2	56.8	60.0	64.0	68.4	56.0
1978	Cents	64.7	61.6	63.8	61.2	64.1	66.2	69.4	71.0	71.3	74.5	79.8	85.0	69.4
1979	Cents	78.6	70.8	72.1	72.5	68.2	67.5	66.1						
Toms, heaviest weight quoted														
1977	Cents	70.5	68.3	67.0	66.9	67.7	69.2	70.1	71.8	72.5	72.5	73.1	74.7	70.4
1978	Cents	76.0	76.2	76.2	76.8	80.4	83.4	83.6	84.0	84.0	85.2	87.0	87.2	81.7
1979	Cents	88.0	88.0	88.5	87.8	87.2	84.2	87.5						

See footnote at end of table.

Table 23– Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in–	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 7.–Prices paid for feed ingredients and poultry feed, and product-feed price ratios														
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (price per bushel)														
1977	Dollars	2.53	2.54	2.52	2.50	2.41	2.27	2.05	1.78	1.80	1.84	2.14	2.19	2.21
1978	Dollars	2.19	2.21	2.36	2.51	2.57	2.51	2.28	2.17	2.13	2.22	2.28	2.27	2.31
1979	Dollars	2.29	2.35	2.42	2.53	2.66	2.83	3.00						
Soybean meal, 49-50 percent, Decatur, Ill. (per ton, bulk)														
1977	Dollars	224	230	247	299	284	247	183	161	162	151	178	175	212
1978	Dollars	175	166	193	189	195	187	187	178	178	192	190	204	186
1979	Dollars	201	207	210	207	205	228	221						
Poultry feed (per ton, bulk)[2]:														
Laying[16]														
1977	Dollars	156	161	161	163	166	162	153	143	138	135	141	145	152
1978	Dollars	147	146	149	154	155	157	155	150	149	150	154	156	152
1979	Dollars	157	159	162	163	163	166	177						
Broiler grower														
1977	Dollars	174	178	179	183	187	184	175	164	154	153	159	160	171
1978	Dollars	162	164	167	169	171	174	170	169	168	169	174	174	169
1979	Dollars	175	179	184	185	184	186	199						
Turkey grower														
1977	Dollars	182	186	188	195	200	196	188	176	172	168	175	177	184
1978	Dollars	177	177	179	183	184	186	186	182	180	183	185	185	182
1979	Dollars	189	194	198	200	201	203	214						
Product-feed price ratios:														
Egg[16]														
1977	Pounds	8.5	8.1	7.3	6.8	5.9	5.8	6.7	7.2	7.6	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1
1978	Pounds	6.7	7.5	7.4	6.7	6.4	5.6	6.4	7.0	7.3	7.0	7.5	7.9	6.9
1979	Pounds	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.0						
Broiler[17]														
1977	Pounds	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.8
1978	Pounds	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1
1979	Pounds	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.6						
Turkey[18]														
1977	Pounds	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.5	3.8
1978	Pounds	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.4	4.6
1979	Pounds	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.6						
Table 8.–USDA contracts to purchase chicken and turkey														
Young chicken (ready-to-cook wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	4.9	6.4	4.5	---	---	---	---	6.7	7.1	9.4	14.0	12.5	65.5
1978	Mil. lbs.	10.6	14.1	3.9	---	---	---	3.2	10.1	8.5	8.6	12.5	12.7	84.2
1979	Mil. lbs.	6.8	9.4	6.8	2.1	---	---	---	14.3					
Canned boned chicken (RTC wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	7.7	6.6	16.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.3	7.9	43.4
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.8	5.8	6.7	6.9	2.1	---	---	---	---	5.4	9.5	5.3	45.5
1979	Mil. lbs.	6.9	4.4	9.7	---	---	---							
Turkey (ready-to-cook wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	6.2	7.2	---	---	---	---	5.8	16.6	14.3	3.9	10.3	9.0	73.4
1978	Mil. lbs.	9.6	6.8	8.0	---	---	---	---	7.7	14.5	14.0	9.4	9.8	80.0
1979	Mil. lbs.	13.3	3.7	2.8	---	---	---	6.6	9.5					
Canned boned turkey (RTC wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1978	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1979	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						

[1] Shell eggs plus the shell egg equivalent of egg products. [2] All eggs, including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. [3] Price as of 15th of month. [4] Delivered f.o.b. buyer. [5] Delivered store door. [6] 30-pound containers, carlot or truckllot. [7] Insufficient price data. [8] Includes fryers-roasters, young turkeys, and old turkeys. [9] [10] Whole carcass turkeys which have been injected, basted, marinated, etc. and packaged as such. [10] Includes federally inspected slaughter of all poultry plus other slaughter of chicken and turkey. [11] Price for month. [12] Trucklot sales of U.S. Grade A and plant grade, ice packed and CO2 chilled broilers delivered to major areas. [13] Computed by weighting the ccity averages by their metropolitan area populations. [14] U.S. Grade A, carlots or trucklots. [15] U.S. Grade A, less than carlots. [16] Pounds of laying feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. [17] Pounds of broiler grower equal in value to 1 pound of broiler liveweight. [18] Pounds of turkey grower equal in value to 1 pound of turkey liveweight.

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